

CIVIL WAR

June 19, 1940

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Juanita S. Dilley
 Pocahontas County
 Ch. 4, section 4b-3

BATTLES OF MARLINS BOTTOM AND
HUNTERSVILLE

There use to be a covered bridge at Marlins Bottom (Marlinton) across the Greenbrier River. This was one of the bridges that came through the Civil War. Armies marched back and forth over this bridge and it figured in battles and retreats, but as it happened, never but once was an attempt made to destroy it an that time Mrs. Margaret Pooge Price was able to scatter the fire. That was during Averill's raid.

Years after the war, Andrew Price saw an old Confederate soldier, James Schisler of Greenbrier County examining the walls of the bridge. He said that he was looking for the loopholes he had used during the war.

So far as is known there was but one time that they had a battle near Marlins Bottom, though it was for months a fortified camp. The local people on either side did not understand what the controversy was about. All they knew was that there were soldiers stationed at the bridge and suddenly the bottom was full of blue coats, and that there was much firing and cavalry charging, that the confederates retreated and the Yankees went away.

Dr. George B. Moffett in telling about it afterwards said, " Well, I thought I had a fairly fleet horse, but with all those bullets flying around me, it seemed like Gizzard could not run at all."

The day that the Yankees and Confederates sowed the bottom with minnie balls was January 2, 1862..

The war broke out in 1861 and for a time Pocahontas was the objective of both armies. The strength of our militia(the 127 Regiment) was 650 at the beginning of the war yet before June 10th over 500 had entefed the Confederate army from Pocahontas. Robert E. Lee spent about two months here in the summer of 1861, between Huntersville and Linwood. For a time he used the Old Toll House at the end of the bridge at Marlins Bottom as his headquarters. (This building is still standing and was a few years ago made into a Tea Room by Mrs. Anna V. Hunter.)

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's whereabouts in this county have been traced by letters he wrote while here..

At Huttonsville that winter the 25th Ohio was camped and with them was Major George Webster. General Milroy was in command of the forces and conceived a plan to let Major Webster have a chance to lead a small army into the Greenbrier Valley by way of Old Field Fork of Elk River to Marlins Bottom. It having been about two weeks since he had found the upper road blocked at Top Allegheny.

Webster entered upon his campaign with enthusiasm and he executed orders with neatness and dispatch. His little army was made up of 400 soldiers from his own regiment. They marched by the Elkwater fort and there he picked up 300 men from the Second West Virginia, and at Linwood he was joined by 38 of Brecken's Cavalrymen. He had loaded up his supply wagons and the army of 738 men moved south into the country of the enemy. He left Huttonsville December 31, 1861. On the evening of Jan. 2, 1862 he reached the place where the Crooked Fork of Elk turns to encircle the upper branch of the Gauley R. There they found the timber barricade cut into the narrow defile the fall before when Lee's army withdrew from the waters of the Elk to the waters of the Greenbrier. The trees were all cut for more than a mile. It was impossible to get his wagons through without losing too much time, so he left them there with fifty men to guard them. He took the path to the left on J.C. Gay's side of the blockade and he climbed the mountain early in the morning of Jan. 3, 1861.

When Webster got to the top of Elk Mountain on the Gay place he could look down the valley of the Greenbrier and see the tents of the company who had started to winter on the Ingen Patch, that part of Marlinton now occupied by the Union Tanning Co. Another company (Louisiana) was camped down the river on the west side where the old Price Place is.

Marlins Bottom was fortified against invasion from the north. The old road came up a little hill and dropped down to the bridge head. On top of this hill was a cannon. A part of the embankment can still be seen. On the east of the river on the bank was a trench of rifle fire extending the length of what is now the Tannery Row of tenement houses, with another cannon styled where the road topped the bank from the Marlin ford. These fortifications commanded the turnpike for a distance of about 400 yards, and made the road extremely dangerous as a passway.

Webster marched his command down Elk Mountain, through the loyal village of Edray,

across Drinnon's Ridge to the rebel settlement of Marlins Bottom. At the mouth of Stony Creek, he stopped long enough to send a squad of cavalry across the river, and they galloped down the east bank of the river and to the Huntersville road firing and acting outrageous to attract attention while Websters infantry came on down the west of the road. The cavalry coming in behind the Confederates caused them to stampede. Most of them made across the bridge to the west and fled into the woods. This engagement while a very noisy one resulted in no loss by death or wounding on either side. All they lost was their wind. It hardly halted the advance of the Federals. They crossed the bridge and advanced on to Huntersville driving before them some mounted Confederates. Huntersville had seen some big armies during the year of 1861, and when Lee left everything in charge of Loring, the Confederates made Huntersville their headquarters for all their activities in this part of the country.

Webster had left Captain Johnson with 50 men to guard the wagons at the barricade on Elks. Now he left Captain Williams with 50 men to guard Greenbrier Bridge.

When Webster arrived at the ford of Knopps Creek, near the home of Joe H. Buzzard, he found the Confederate cavalry on the south side of the creek in a level field, their line extending up and over a hilly spur that jutted out into the field. Webster sent a detachment up the mountain to turn the confederate's right while the rest of his command marched upon their front and firing became general on both sides. But the confederates seeing that the Federals were encircling them fell back and formed a new line of battle on Cummings Creek near Huntersville. The picket coming in from Marlins Bottom had reported the Federal forces to be about 5000 men.

Webster crossed the creek at Buzzards, topped the little spur and finding that the Confederates were in battle line on Cummings Creek sent two companies to his right through the woods, and the Brocken Cavalry to the left toward the creek. The rest of the troops advanced forward. After some firing the Confederates mounted their horses and retreated to the town. As the Federals entered Huntersville the Federals entered Huntersville on the west side the Confederates left by the east side. When Webster marched into Huntersville he found it deserted. Not a soul was living there. The courthouse, jail, stores and houses were all vacant. War had come too close to them, and the county seat and largest town was abandoned by its population. It remained in this condition for most of the war, and the soldiers used the Presbyterian church for a camp, and the houses were abused. Windows

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Nelle Y. McLaughlin
Charlinton, W. Va.

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were broken, doors left swinging. An old timer said that Huntersville which had been the scene of so much social life and gayety became one of the dreariest sights he had ever seen.

The people had abandoned the town because they had been told by the Confederates that if they were beaten the Federals would burn the town. When the town was captured Jan 3, 1862, large stores of army supplies were found stored there. There were 350 barrels of flour, 150,000 pounds of beef, 30,000 pounds of salt and large quantities of sugar, coffee, rice, bacon and clothing. Not being able to move anything fire was set to the stores and they were destroyed. The Confederates had fallen back to Monterey Va. The Federal loss was one man shot in the arm. The Confederates loss was one man killed and 7 wounded. The number of Confederates engaged was about 400 regular cavalrymen, and several hundred citizens recruited the day before, and two companies of infantry. In the meantime, at Camp Baldwin on the Allegheney, Gen. Edward Johnson was filled with apprehension. His scouts had reported the forward movement of the Federals to be about 5,000 men and Johnson thought they would circle around by Huntersville, Frost, and Crab Bottom and attack him from his base at Monterey.

But having destroyed the confederate supplies at Huntersville Webster turned and marched his men back to his wagons that night in the driving rain, having fought two engagements and marched something like 28 miles on foot. That was a big days work. It took one and one-half hours to drive the Confederates a mile, and he was in Huntersville two hours destroying supplies.

It was no wonder the local people did not understand the movements for even the Confederate commanders did not know what was happening to them. Websters return from Huntersville was what they had not counted on. They went on the basis that a big army was on the move, and expected it to march on to White Sulphur, Millboro, or Monterey. But the little Federal army marching so jaunty with their young commander had no notion of penetrating farther into the strongholds of the Confederates than any Union army had reached up to that time. Webster had swept the country clean as he went along, and had extricated his army with much neatness and dispatch.

On Jan. 6, 1862 they were back in their old headquarters at Huttonsville. It was as fine a campaign as ever a set of youngsters put over. Webster was there and back again

with all his men and horses intact, having carried fire and sword into a hostile country, and marched 106 miles in six days.

He threw a scare into the Confederates that made their lines quiver from Huntersville to Winchester and from Top Allegheny to Staunton.

Scouts rode headlong in every direction carrying dispatches. They seem to have agreed on the strength of the Federal army as being 5,000 men instead of the 738 that it actually was.

From--1928 West Virginia Blue Book

by Andrew Price

Nelle Y. McLaughlin
Washington, Va.

Juanita S. Dilley
Clover Lick, W. Va.
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Chapter 4
Section 4b-5

Battle of Top Allegheny

Dec. 13, 1861.

The battle of Top Allegheny was fought in Pocahontas county on December 13, 1861 between the forces of the Union under General R. H. Milroy, and the forces of the confederates under General W. W. Loring. Col. Edward Johnson commanding.

The two companies had camped within sight of each other since July 13, 1861 the day the Federals had occupied Whites Top of Cheat. For five months they had watched each others camp fires rise. During this five months they had fought the battle at Travelers Repose on Oct. 3 and had also had another skermish at this same place on Oct. 31, 1861. Both times the Federals had been driven back to their camp on Cheat Mountain.

There had been other minor skermishes throughout the summer and Autumn. The Federal camp was known officially as Camp Cheat Mountain Summit. The Confederate camp was known as Camp Baldwin, in honor of a confederate soldier of that name. Between these two camps was Camp Bartow at Travelers Repose. The Confederates had made a winter camp on top Allegheny Montain by erecting log cabins.

As you go along the road now you can see piles of stone at regular intervals which represent the chimneys of the cabins. You can see the trenches and fortifications on Allegheny also at Cheat and Bartow. The top of Allegheny is a wind-swept pasture land, and the pike lies for some miles through this level table-land. In making the attack, the Federals had to climb up the side of the mountain and fight on the top of this table-land.

The advance on December 12th found Camp Bartow at Travelers Repose deserted, but Mayor D. H. Ross of the 52nd Virginian had been dispatched to that point with 106 men to form an ambuscade on the road between Durbin and Bartow.

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When the Federals came up, Ross and his men fired on them and killed 10 and wounded a number of others. The Federals advanced in great force and Ross was forced to retreat. He reached Camp Baldwin that night.

Ambrose Bierce was with the Federals. He says they marched all day down Cheat Mountain and all night up Allegheny Mountain. That the firing at the foot of the mountain halted them for a time, but after the Confederates retreated they reached Travelers Rest. There they divided. About half of them marched down the road toward Greenbank and turned at the Urish Heavener farm and climbed the road that is still used as a short cut between Saulsbury Run and Buffalo Run. The other half continued up the pike.

As the battle was scheduled to begin before day break those killed at Bartow were not buried but laid on the upper side of the road and covered with blankets. As the soldiers passed that way many of them stopped to see if they could recognize a friend among the dead.

The next day as they returned from the battle ground defeated and approached the place where the dead lay it seemed they had moved and cast aside their covering. But upon investigation they found a drove of hogs had been at the bodies and eaten the faces off the dead. The hogs were killed and the dead buried. "This scene is described in Iconoclastic Memories of the Civil War-Ambrose Bierce".

When the turnpike gets to within a mile of the top of this mountain, it makes a sharp turn to the south and from there it climbs gently to the top where it passes a church. The Federal army left the pike at this curve and climbed directly up the hillside hoping to get behind the camp. But there were pickets out and the camp was alarmed by their shots around 4 o'clock that morning. The Confederates marched several companies out to meet the Federals as they came at the top. The Federals waited in the edge of the forest until near daylight and then marched into the open field and then the firing became general.

The Confederate line swung back and forward, and at one stage of the battle their right flank was driven to take shelter in their log cabins. There was fighting all over the top until mid afternoon, The half of the army which had swung to the south and was advancing up the crest of Buffalo Ridge failed in its purpose of surprising the camp. On that side of the camp there were trenches prepared to guard both roads and there was also some good artillery.

These trenches were full of soldiers prepared for an emergency. However, when the Federals first appeared, Captain Anderson of the Lee Battery thought it was a band of pickets being driven in. He sprang upon the side of the trench and called to them to hurry up and get in to the trenches. He was instantly shot and killed.

Finally about mid afternoon a retreat was sounded and the Federal army made its way back to camp Cheat Mountain. The Confederates reported that 1,200 Confederates had repulsed an army of 5000 men. That it was a great battle and a great victory.

The Federals reported that they had 1,760 men and the Confederates had 2,500, and that it was a reconnaissance in force. J. P. Benjamin, Sec. of War, wrote that President Jefferson Davis having been informed of the valor of Col. Edward Johnson in repulsing a vastly superior force was much gratified at the news of success, and had made him a brigadier general.

The losses of the battle were: Federal-dead 20, wounded 107, missing 10, total 137.

Confederate- dead 20, wounded 98, missing 28, total 146. After this battle the troops went into winter quarters, and there was no more fighting on the Staunton and Parkersburg turnpike that winter.

From - W. Va. Blue Book 1928
By, Andrew Price.

According to the old timers who have heard relatives tell about their winter in camp on the Allegheny, they were about to starve.

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Roy McPaters says he has heard his uncle J. Martin tell how they went out once and killed a sheep belonging to a near by farmer. That they were so hungry that they ate it when only half cooked and then fought over the skin. At another time they broke into a cellar where a woman had her ox hid. They cut its throat and took the meat back to camp.

Ambrose Bierce tells of hunting bear on Cheat Mountain when the snow was up to his arms. Whether he hunted for pleasure or to obtain food I do not know. Also I've been told by Lee Ervin, who had several uncles from Bath Co. in Camp Baldwin, that the reason they were so well prepared to repulse this Federal army was because they could see them as they marched down Back Allegheny and knew they were coming for an attack. Therefore, had all in readiness.

June 18, 1940

Nelle Y. McLaughlin

Estanita S. Dilley
March 11, 1940

CHAPTER 4 - SECTION 4b-3

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POCAHONTAS COUNTY

BATTLES OF MILL POINT AND
DROOP MOUNTAIN

In November 1863 there were no Confederate forces of any size anywhere in West Virginia except in the Greenbrier Valley. That was held by the Confederates from its head to its foot, some 170 miles, by between four and five thousand soldiers, protecting Virginia from attack from the west.

General Kelly, in command of the department of West Virginia, gave orders to General Averill at Beverly and General Duffie at Gauley Bridge to send armies to meet at Lewisburg and drive the Confederates out of the Greenbrier Valley.

Averill came into Pocahontas by the Staunton and Parkersburg Turnpike and turned south at Travelers Repose. At that time the Confederate troops were stationed as follows: At Glade Hill in the upper part of the county was Captain W. L. McNeel's Co., At Edray, Captain J. W. Marshall was in charge of a detachment watching the Marlins Bottom and Huttonsville Turnpike; Col. W. W. Arnett had a regiment at Marlins Bottom in comfortable log houses getting ready to winter there; Colonel W. L. Jackson had the main part of his regiment the 19th Virginia Cavalry at Mill Point; Col. W. P. Thompson was away with a part of his regiment on an expedition to Nicholas County and had gotten as far as Cold Knob in Greenbrier Co., Gen. Echols had the main part of the troops at Lewisburg.

McNeel's Co., at Glade Hill discovered the Advance of Averill and sent a messenger to warn Arnett at Marlins bottom of the advance. Averill moved swiftly, and but for this courier getting through would have surprised the Confederates in their camps. As it was the McNeel Soldiers got too close and four were captured, and John Adam McNeel had his horse shot and he got a broken leg out of it. The main camp of McNeel's Co. was cut off and they escaped by going up Galfords Creek and crossing the Allegheny Mountains to the waters of Back Creek.

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Nelle I. ...
Marlinton, " Va.

Battles of Mill Point - Pocahontas County

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Arnett got his men out of Marlins Bottom by the skin of his teeth as it was. He sent a horse soldier (cavalryman) to tell Captain Marshall at Edray that he was going to barricade the road on Price Hill, and for him to march the back way and come to the road on top of Price Hill. Arnett cut a lot of trees across the Price Hill road and dug some of the road away on that sliding hillside. The exciting days for this county were Wednesday, Nov. 4, Thursday Nov. 5th; and Friday Nov. 6, 1863. Then it was that the biggest battle ever fought in Pocahontas occurred. Arnett left Marlins Bottom at sun down on Wednesday and Col. Ohley moved into his deserted log cabins at dusk.

There was only one road between Marlins Bottom and Mill Point, and Averill with his army at Huntersville had laid a plan to capture Arnett's forces by sending Ohley down the pike to get Arnett started south while Col. Harris moved his forces down Beaver Creek to get ahead of him and block the road at Marvin Chapel where the two roads unite. This plan would have succeeded but for Col. W. P. Thompson who had been recalled from Cold Knob with his cavalry and was unsaddling at his old camp on the John S. Kellison farm when Jackson's courier rode up and told him to hold the Beaver Creek road. Thompson immediately went to Beaver Creek, and spent the evening cutting trees across the road. He fell back firing as he went. This delayed the Federal Army to such an extent that Arnett got by.

On this expedition, Averill had with him some signal experts. It was arranged that the main corps would stay at Huntersville, while others went on to Marvin Chapel where they were to send up rockets to communicate the position and success of Col. Harris and his troops.

Merritt went to the top of the hill at Huntersville to observe the signals and Derricks went on with troops to report. It was arranged that the rockets were to be sent up at 8 P. M. and Merritt waited on top of the knob until 10 P. M. and seeing no rockets he went back to headquarters. It afterwards appeared that Derricks was not able to send up his rockets until 11 P. M. and they were not observed at Huntersville though the Confederates saw them red against the sky. They

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Nelle Y. McLaughlin
Marlinton, W. Va.

Battles of Mill Point - Pocahontas County

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were a sort of a new departure in mountain warfare. Thompson and his blockading tactics had interfered with the march so much that the army was three hours late.

Thursday Nov. 5, 1863, was Mill Point day. Mill Point has never been given the credit for the baptism by fire that she had that day because what occurred next day at Droop Mountain, five miles south, has overshadowed it to such a great extent.

There was enough powder burned that day at Mill Point to fight a great battle. The Federal armies were at Stephen Hale Run and on the hill between that run and Mill Point. The Confederates formed a battle line along the banks of Stamping Creek for a mile or more, and their artillery was on the hill just south of Mill Point. When their guns began to thunder it occurred to Jackson that his battle line was just the right distance from the Federal batteries to be in range of grape shot and he withdrew his army by having them slip silently up the stream until they were hid by the bend of the mountain, and he took them out by the flint pits near Tom Beards. Having gotten his troops under way, he looked up to the long smooth summit of Droop Mountain and decided to take his stand there. By nightfall he was in camp on the crest looking down on the Federal army as they kindled their fires in the broad fields of the Little Levels.

On that Thursday the Federal troops at Marlins Bottom got word to cut out the blockade and move on to Mill Point. Before they left, they burned the log cabins the Confederates had planned to winter in.

On that Thursday, too, General Echols at Lewisburg heard that Gen. Duffie with an army was covering him from Gauley Bridge, and Averill was coming from Beverly, so he got busy. He sent a regiment west on the Midland Trail to hold Duffie. He moved the remainder of his army to Pocahontas. That day he marched his men fourteen miles and went into camp at Spring Creek. The arrangements were to reinforce Jackson who was to fall back until Echols could join him. That night, message was received by Echols that the Federal army was much larger than they had thought at first, and that there would be a battle next day on top of Droop Mountain.

This was no night to sleep. Echols got his forces under way at two o'clock and reached Droop Mountain at nine o'clock that same morning. This was a record march.

28 miles over mountain roads. But when they came back that same night they made it in eleven hours. These mountain men marched 56 miles in 42 hours, and had wasted 7 hours fighting a battle. They never even hesitated when they reached Lewisburg for Duffie was due there that morning.

On Friday morning Nov. 6, 1863 Echols, Arnett and Marshall also Jackson and Thompson, Echols commanding, with an army of around 5000 soldiers were encamped at the foot of the mountain. He was in plain sight of the Confederates on the mountain and it was impossible to march up the mountain and attack from the front without being seen. Therefore, he sent Col. Augustus Moore, of the 28th Ohio Regiment, and Col. T. M. Harris, of the 10th West Virginia, to make a flanking movement and attack the Confederates from the rear. Averill made gestures of attack from the front while Moore and Harris with about 1000 soldiers went over the mountain and through the woods to attack in the rear.

Most of us have grown up with the idea that the Confederates neglected to guard their left flank and that they were taken by surprise, but a study of the official dispatches on both sides do not bear out that theory. It seems that no less than four detachments were sent against this attack and that they fought a long and bloody battle for about a mile through the thick forest and underbrush on top of the mountain. And what is more, instead of being surprised by the flanking movement, a Confederate soldier fired the first shot. This soldier said, "We were lying in the woods watching for the Federals to advance and the first we saw of them was when a soldier showed his head over a rail fence. This was the first soldier killed at the battle of Droop Mountain.

Moore says that "the Confederates raised at this fence and poured a devastating fire into his men. This was the critical moment, had his men broken at this surprise the battle would have been lost. The men were commanded to lie down, and in a few minutes Col. Harris's regiment joined him and they went forward fighting every inch of the way, arriving at last at the cleared hill where the rebel artillery was."

The battle hung in the balance as the fight went on in the west of the woods. The Confederate commander Echols knew of the importance of that movement. He sent Capt. Marshall's forces in there first. It was reinforced by Col. Thompson and some more companies of the same regiment. Then the 23rd Virginia Battalion was ordered into the woods on the extreme left to support Thompson. Then Col. Gibson with four companies of the 14th Virginia Cavalry (Cochran's regiment) were ordered into the woods where the fighting was heaviest. And finally a picked body of troops from three companies of the 22nd, including Capt. James McNeill's Nicholas Blues, were placed under Capt. John K. Thompson and they plunged into the fatal woods and by a desperate charge actually stopped the advance but the next wave went over them.

Averill marched up the mountain from the front when he detected the fighting in the rear. When his men reached the top of the mountain the Confederate forces broke and ran. The Federals fought a stern chase battle with them for hours.

Those who have made a study of troop movements which culminated in the Battle of Droop Mountain say that General Echols had no time to stay and fight it out with Averill when he knew another Union army was coming to cut off his rear by way of Lewisburg. He was in a trap and it was up to him to get his army out before it could be sprung.

It was a far more reaching victory than the Richmond government was willing to admit, for it was the last stand in a way that the Confederates made in West Virginia. The retreat took them well down to Dublin, and no rebel army was assembled here after that time. This was the turning point of the war so far as the mountains were concerned.

It was fought by troops from the two Virginias with one regiment each from Ohio and Pennsylvania. It broke the power of the Confederates and determined the control of the western part of Virginia.

Gen. Echols reported that the only trophy the Federals could boast of was the capture of a brass cannon. This cannon was a twelve pound howitzer or sling and was the pride of the Confederate army, but it had been injured in a battle at White

Sulphur Springs the summer before, and since it could not be used it was buried and a log rolled over the place to hide it. So far as is known this cannon was never found, though it is believed to be buried on the McCoy land.

Captain John Johnson lost an eye in this battle. It was his third wound. He was mentioned in the dispatches for his bravery and courage. He said that it was the hottest fire he ever experiences. Captain Marshall and Captain Hutton, also Lieut. John G. Beard of Pocahontas County received honorable mention in the dispatches.

As the Federal army returned over the Seneca Trail to Beverly they were fired upon by a troop of about 60 confederate soldiers near the top of Elk Mountain. Bushwhackers these soldiers were called. (Prices History of Pocahontas).

It was here that Colonel Cochran of Virginia made his famous escape. He was apparently in the power of a squad of Union soldiers. When asked why he did not surrender he said, "If they had said, "Col. surrender!" I would have done so; but they yelled, "Stop you -----red headed son of a gun!" and I would not accommodate anyone who would use such language to me.

Avenell's full name was

William Woods Averill

I've found his name spelled Averil, and Averell, but I believe Averill is correct.

This material was taken from 1928 W. Va. Blue Book. History of Pocahontas,

Pocahontas Times Nov. 14, 1935.

June 19, 1940

DOCUMENTS COUNTY

Inventory of Materials

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Gives date & place, military units
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CIVIL

THE BATTLE OF DROOP MOUNTAIN.

Notes 7 pages

The battle of Droop Mountain was fought on the 6th day of November, 1863. The confederate forces consisted of the 22nd Virginia Infantry, Colonel George Patton (of Kanawha County, afterward killed at Winchester), Commanding; the 19th Virginia Infantry, Colonel W. P. Thompson Commanding; the 20th Virginia Infantry, Colonel W. W. Arnott Commanding; the 14th Virginia Cavalry, Colonel James Cochran, Commanding; Jackson's and Chapman's Batteries, and Edgar's and Derrick's Battallions. The entire force was under command of General John Echols. This force, on the first day of the month, was lying at Meadow Bluff, in Greenbrier County.

The federal force was composed of the 14th Pennsylvania Cavalry, 23rd and 24th Ohio Infantry, the 5th, 6th, and 10th, West Virginia Infantry, and one battery of Artillery. This force had been stationed at Beverly in Randolph County. The federal force was under command of General W. W. Averell.

The movement of the two armies preceding this battle have been traced by competent authority to have been as follows: In the first week in November, 1863, General Averell ordered General Duffie to meet him at 2 p. m., November 7th, at Lewisburg, and Duffie marched from Kanawha, 120 miles. Averell marched from Beverly and had 110 miles to go. Averell reached Lewisburg on Saturday November 7th, at 2 p. m., and found that Duffie had got there at 10 a. m.

Averell left Beverly on Sunday and came over Cheat mountain by way of Cheat Bridge and marched by Camp Bartow, where they left the Staunton & Parkersburg Turnpike and took the road leading by Greenbank to Huntersville.

They reached Huntersville on Wednesday at noon, and there Averell ~~heard that~~ ~~Colonel W. P. Thompson, with the 19th Virginia Cavalry, was at Marlins Bottom, at the Greenbrier Bridge.~~ Averell sent the 14th Pennsylvania Cavalry and the 3rd West Virginia Mounted Infantry down Beaver Creek ~~to ford the river eight miles below~~ south of Marlinton to cut off ~~Thompson at Stephen Hole Run on the Marlin-Lewisburg Turnpike,~~ and sent the 2nd and 8th West Virginia mounted infantry to Marlinton with Ewing's Battery. Thompson, apprehending his danger, left in a hurry and cut a barricade of trees across the pike on Price Hill, a mile or so distant from the bridge, and beat the federal forces to the pike at Stephen Hole Run and joined up with the confederate troops in the Levels and there turned and stopped the advance. There was some cannon firing that day across the valley of Stamping Creek at Mill Point. Averell, at Huntersville, got word in the night time from his command at Marlinton and from Stephen Hole Run, that Thompson had escaped the trap.

Averell moved his Huntersville army down Beaver Creek, Thursday, starting at 3 a. m. and reaching Mill Point at 8 a. m. He had ordered the Colonel in charge of the Marlinton army to cut out the barricade on Price Hill and join him at Mill Point, and both wings of the army arrived at Mill Point at the same time. The effect of this was to put the Confederates in motion and they retired from the plains around Hillsboro to the heights overlooking that town, and erected embankments and fortifications on the brow of the mountain overlooking the Levels where the pike tops the mountain going south.

Averell says ~~he~~ ~~did not~~ ~~attack~~ on Thursday, when

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The movement of the two armies preceding this battle have been traced by competent authority to have been as follows: In the first week in November, 1863, General Averell ordered General Duffie to meet him at 2 p. m., November 7th, at Lewisburg, and Duffie marched from Kanawha, 120 miles. Averell marched from Beverly and had 110 miles to go. Averell reached Lewisburg on Saturday November 7th, at 2 p. m., and found that Duffie had got there at 10 a. m.

Averell left Beverly on Sunday and came over Cheat mountain by way of Cheat Bridge and marched by Camp Bartow, where they left the Staunton & Parkersburg Turnpike and took the road leading by Greenbank to Huntersville.

They reached Huntersville on Wednesday at noon, and there Averell learned that Colonel W. P. Thompson, with the 19th Virginia Cavalry, was at Marlinton, at the Greenbrier Bridge. Averell sent the 14th Pennsylvania Cavalry and the 3rd West Virginia Mounted Infantry down Beaver Creek to ford the river eight miles ~~east~~ south of Marlinton to cut off Thompson at Stephen Hole Run on the Marlin-Lewisburg Turnpike, and sent the 2nd and 8th West Virginia mounted infantry to Marlinton with Ewing's Battery. Thompson, apprehending his danger, left in a hurry and cut a barricade of trees across the pike on Price Hill, a mile or so distant from the bridge, and beat the federal forces to the pike at Stephen Hole Run and joined up with the confederate troops in the Levels and there turned and stopped the advance. There was some cannon firing that day across the valley of Stamping Creek at Mill Point. Averell, at Huntersville, got word in the night time from his command at Marlinton and from Stephen Hole Run, that Thompson had escaped the trap.

Averell moved his Huntersville army down Beaver Creek, Thursday, starting at 3 a. m. and reaching Mill Point at 8 a. m. He had ordered the Colonel in charge of the Marlinton army to cut out the barricade on Price Hill and join him at Mill Point, and both wings of the army arrived at Mill Point at the same time. The effect of this was to put the Confederates in motion and they retired from the plains around Hillsboro to the heights overlooking that town, and erected embankments and fortifications on the brow of the mountain overlooking the Levels where the pike tops the mountain going south.

Averell says that the reason he did not attack on Thursday, when he came upon the Confederates in the Levels was that he was thirty four miles from Lewisburg and that if he drove his enemy forward that day they would get by Lewisburg before Duffie would have arrived from Kanawha.

On Thursday then about all that was done was to try to go around the Confederates and cut them off from the mountain, but Jackson beat them to it and left the Levels to be occupied by Averell.

Averell got his troops into position before daylight the next morning. He sent the 14th Pennsylvania to the left and they took up their stand near the Locust Creek bridge and appeared to be ready to charge up the mountain. Resper's Battery was placed on the high ground above the

CIVIL WAR

G. C. & GEORGIA A. BEARD.

Note dated April 6th, 1934, for \$10,000.00, due August 6th, 1934, and secured by a deed of trust dated October 16th, 1924, on all the real estate and personal property owned by the Marlinton Hotel Company. Said debt with interest is as follows:

Principal	\$10,000.00
Interest from 8-6-1934 to 1-1-1935	<u>241.64</u>
Total	\$10,241.64

Your Commissioner reports that the liens of the Bank of Marlinton and G. C. and Georgia A. Beard are of equal dignity, both being secured by the same deed of trust, the Rockbridge National Bank of Lexington, Virginia, having assigned its lien by virtue of said deed of trust to G. C. and Georgia A. Beard.

LIENS OF THE THIRD CLASS.

FARMERS & MERCHANTS BANK OF MARLINTON.

Note dated April 14th, 1934, for \$5,360.00, with a credit of \$60.00, due July 14th, 1934, and secured by a deed of trust dated October 15th, 1926, on all the real estate and personal property owned by the Marlinton Hotel Company. Said debt with interest is as follows:

Principal	\$5,300.00
Interest from 7-14-1934 to 1-1-1935	<u>148.10</u>
Total	

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Principal	\$5,300.00
Interest from 7-14-1934 to 1-1-1935	<u>148.10</u>
Total	\$5,448.10

LIENS OF THE FOURTH CLASS.

H. KJELMENSEN.

...hlin

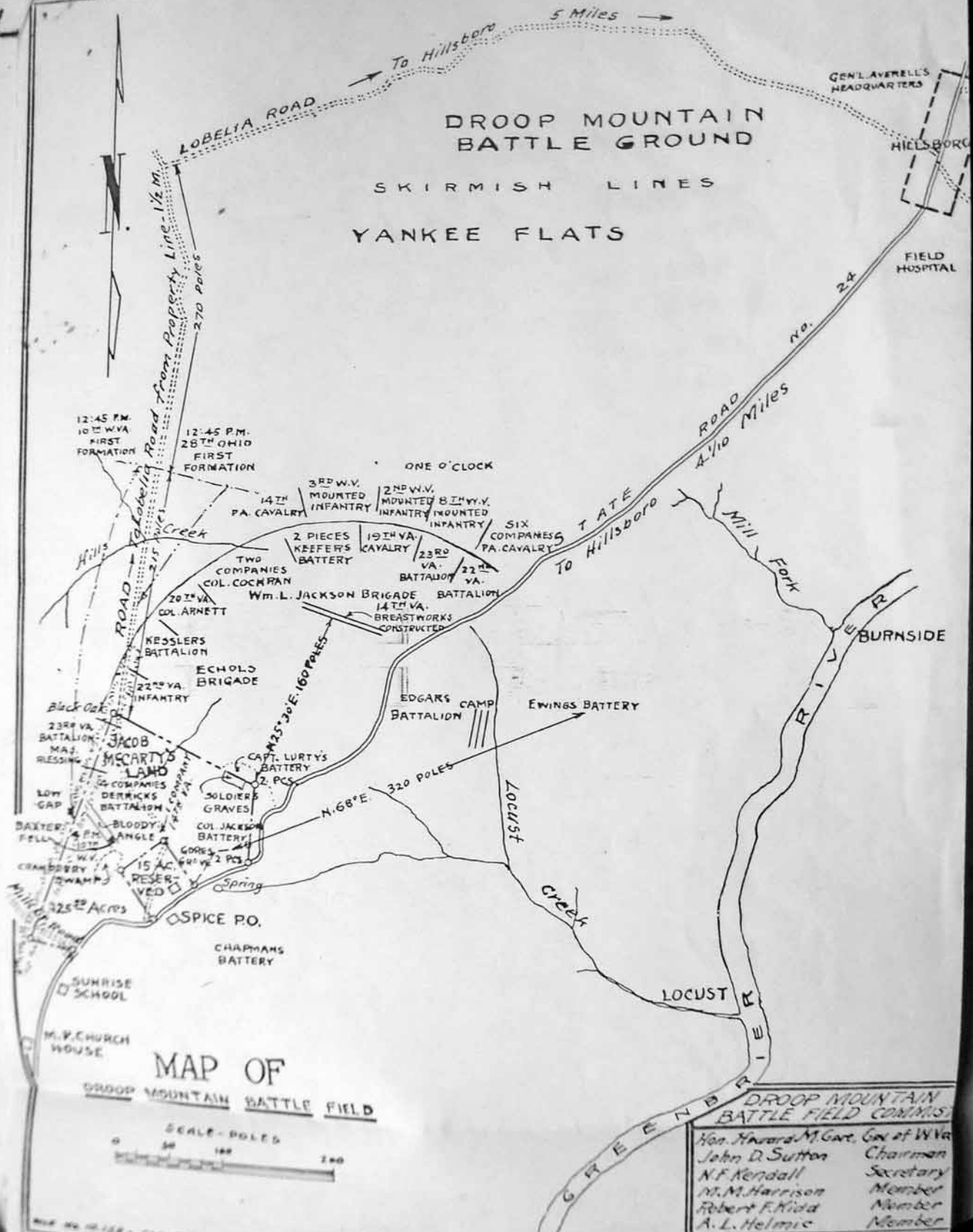
... and commenced to fire on the batteries on top of the mountain. Owen's Battery was placed on the left of the pike between Hillsboro and the foot of Droop Mountain. Gibson's Battallion and the 10th West Virginia were held in or near Hillsboro on the pike. The 2nd, 3rd, and 8th, West Virginia Regiments were placed to the right of the pike about the Renick place, out of sight of the Confederates on top of the mountain. The 28th Ohio Volunteer Infantry and one company of the 14th, Pennsylvania, in all 1175 men, were sent by the long nine mile detour to the right by Lobelia, and while they started long before daylight they did not reach the battle field until 1:45 p. m. In the meantime a great deal of cannon firing had been going on.

About nine o'clock, the Confederates announced by cheers and by bank music, and by the display of flags, that Major General Echols had brought his army up. This must have caused Averell some apprehension considering the position he held with the Confederates holding the mountain top. He had not attacked the day before for good and sufficient reason. We shall see later how he won on this day with the odds against him.

The Confederate line of position was as follows: Edgar's Battalion on the river road to Greenbrier. On the farmland on the brow of the mountain where the battle was fought was the 22nd Virginia Cavalry; 19th Virginia Cavalry; 20th Virginia Cavalry; 14th Virginia Cavalry; Derrick's Battallion; Jackson's Batteries. On the Lobelia-Jacox road: Nobody. The failure to guard the road leading in from the rear costs the Confederates the battle. At 1:45 p. m., the flanking party arrived and came through the woods firing as they came. It is said to have been one of the most sudden and most fearful fires that men were ever subject to. In about an hour, the Confederates were in full flight.

XXXXXXXXXX

As soon as Averell heard his flanking party commence to fire, he moved the 2nd, 3rd, and 8th regiments obliquely to the right up the mountain. The horses had been left at the foot of the mountain. They came out on top of the mountain exactly on the left of the flanking army and together they advanced on the breastworks of the Confederates and the fight was over in a few minutes, and the Confederate army in full retreat. The losses on both sides was heavy.



June 19, 1940

Nelle Y. McLaughlin
Marlinton, W. Va.

POCAHONTAS COUNTY

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Chapter 4 - Section 4 - Incidents in Battle of Droop Mountain.

The Droop Mountain Battlefield Commission has tried to mark the position of the different units and by actual survey and measurements, that the markers which they have planted and the maps which they have prepared, may be a sure guide to the public, and the descendants of the soldiers that fought the battle, and point to the very spot where their fathers stood in the greatest battle ever fought on West Virginia soil.

Milton Butcher, who was Jackson's courier, carried the last order that his chief gave. The order was to Col. Derrick, and read, "Fall back to pike, west of artillery." He delivered the dispatch but his horse was killed and he was captured, but made his escape.

Major Kester, who commanded the 46th Battalion was in front of the 28th Ohio. He stopped their advance and they were back, whereupon Kester shouted to his men to stand firm for two minutes, saying they were whipped, but before the two minutes were up the 10th West Virginia coming up as Colonel Moor says in a report, "just in the nick of time", turned the tide of battle, and the Major found it more convenient to run than stand.

About this time the Confederate line was reinforced by four companies of the 22nd Virginia Infantry, and one company of the 14th Virginia Cavalry dismounted. They poured a deadly fire from behind a fence into the ranks of the 10th West Vir-

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ginia Infantry, and especially into Company F, which happened to be in an exposed position, and many of its members were being shot down, and many wounded and some of its members began to fall back. Their Captain was in prison and the First Lieutenant was on staff duty, and the company had but one commanding officer, Lieutenant Henry Bender. John D. Baxter, the orderly sergeant was in advance of the company. At this point our chairman saw the condition of the company and went up to Baxter and requested him to get back and help line up the company. To this request Baxter never replied but ran up and kicked two or three rails off the fence and they both jumped over and Baxter received a mortal wound. - W. F. Morrison, W. M. Barnett and John A. Blagg we believe were the next to cross the fence, and while crossing Blagg was badly wounded and Barnett had a leg shot off. Morrison escaped unharmed. George H. Morrison, Silas Carr and M. D. Shaver were the next of Company F to cross the rail fence. This occurred near the close of the battle. No braver man than J. D. Baxter ever espoused a cause or went to war. A few minutes later Major Bailey of the 22nd Virginia was mortally wounded, while trying to rally his men to make another stand. He was an officer and soldier of daring and courage.

Two most pathetic scenes occurred at that battle: after the battle a squad of soldiers was detailed to gather up the dead and wounded, and among the number thus detailed was Andrew J. Short of Company F, 10th West Virginia Infantry.

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They were working in the night, and Short discovered a dead soldier, and took hold of his body to remove him to the place where they were bringing the dead and wounded soldiers. He felt a crooked finger on the dead soldier's hand, and the size and feel of the man convinced Short that he was his brother, John. He, therefore, called for someone to bring a light, saying that he had found his brother, and when he had the light, he found for a certainty that it was his brother.

After the battle a young woman was observed going among the dead looking intently into the faces of each dead Confederate soldier. On being asked what she was looking for she said, "I am looking for George". She was the guest at the home of Colonel McNeill. She had recently married and was the wife of Captain George I. Davisson of Lewis County. George had gone through the battle unharmed and was far from the scene of conflict when his wife was looking among the dead.

While every battle has its tragedies, yet in most every battle there is some amusing incident. James Sisler was Colonel Jackson's brigadier quartermaster, and had charge of the trains and ordinance supplies. He recently related that at the close of the battle when they were on the retreat and in great confusion, he rode up to Colonel Jackson and asked him what he would do with the wagon train, and Jackson said, "Damned if I know". Sisler said that he then ordered the teamsters to turn their wagons, and retreat on the Lewisburg pike. He said in the confusion that the team of General Echols' ordinance

POCAHONTAS COUNTY

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wagon became frightened, and whirled around, breaking the tongue off the wagon. They then put some fence rails on the wagon to set it on fire, and he said for several years after, the war, people would come to gather up scattered lead over the fields.

Hamilton Riggs, a member of the 10th West Virginia Infantry, is authority for the story illustrating the coolness of Colonel Harris in battle and under heavy fire. While Colonel Harris was leading his regiment into position for the final charge at Droop Mountain, he passed to a section so rough that he had dismounted and was leading his horse. A bullet from the Confederate lines passed through the long, red beard then worn by the Colonel, cutting out a wisp. He stripped out the severed whiskers and as he dropped them to the ground, turned to Adjutant John Warnicke and said, "John, take my horse back to the rear; I'm afraid he'll get shot." Then he continued to lead the charge on foot.

Prior to the Battle of Droop Mountain there were no considerable Confederate forces anywhere in West Virginia except in the Greenbrier Valley, which was held by the Confederates from its head to its foot, a distance of about one hundred seventy miles, and which protected Virginia from attacks from the west. For the purpose of dislodging these Confederate forces, General Averell was directed to march from Beverly, West Virginia, to Lewisburg and it was while on the march that he met the enemy

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at Droop Mountain. The battle was there fought on the 6th day of November, 1863, between the forces commanded by General Averell, and the Confederate forces by General John Echols and Colones William L. Jackson.

At a distance, it would look like common consent that the forces were to be assembled for a final test of strength. General Averell, with a very formidable force, left Beverly on Nov. 1st, to find the enemy and give battle wherever he might be found. General WM. L. Jackson, commanding a brigade and several other units, battalions and companies, was joined by General Echols on the morning of the 6th, by a splendid brigade of fighting men. General Averell encountered the Confederates in force at Mill Point on the morning of the 5th, and drove them to the foot of Droop Mountain, and there camped for the night. On the morning of the 6th, General Averell threw out a strong skirmish line that cleared his front to the foot of the mountain. About 9 A. M. the 10th W. Va. Inft., 28th Ohio Inft., and one company of the 14th Pa. Cav. and two pieces of Ewing's Battery were sent around on a back road six and one-half miles where they formed, and struck the enemy in force. Here is where the principal and hardest part of the battle was fought, and in passing over one small plot of cleared land, not comprising more than one acre, thirteen were killed and forty-seven were wounded. Some of those wounded died later, so if this battlefield covering nearly two thousand acres of land and fought on by seven

POCAHONTAS COUNTY

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thousand determined soldiers, what would the casualty list have been, if the land had been cleared. Averell then formed the 2nd, 3rd, and 8th West Va. Mounted Infantry, with a portion of the 14th Pa. Cavalry in line of battle, who succeeded in driving the Confederate forces, composed of the 22nd Virginia Inft. and 19th Va. Cav. and other units up the mountain, near the summit. While further on the left of the Confederate line we find a portion of Colonel Averell's regiment, 20th Va. Colonel _____ commanding, Kessler's Battalion, 23rd Va., Major Blessing; four companies Derrick's battalion, a portion of the 22nd Va. Infantry. Some of these units have been twice named because as the fighting became more severe on the Confederate left, they weakened their right by sending reinforcements to strengthen their left.

The forces engaged in the battle were composed of twelve Confederate units regiments, battalions and independent companies.

While the Union forces were composed of nine units, regiments and battalions, there was but a slight difference in the numbers composing the two armies, the 10th West Virginia infantry and the 23rd Ohio that comprised the flanking party and did the principal fighting was reported as 1175 soldiers while the 22nd Virginia Infantry, Confederate, was reported officially at 550 soldiers strong and the 23rd Virginia Battalion 350 strong. Captain Marshall with 125 dismounted cavalry, Captain Derring's battalion 300, and Major Kesler's battalion and other units composed a very elegant fighting force. These units were con-

POCAHONTAS COUNTY

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centrated on the Confederate left and fought the 10th and 28th. So it was a battle royal by seasoned troops of approximately equal numbers.

What turned the tide of battle was the neglect of the Confederate General to fortify his position and protect his flank. Averell, an officer of superior ability, took advantage of the situation and turned the flank of the enemy with his infantry and gave them such a slight margin for their escape which caused much confusion.

All that saved the Confederates from being cut off was the lake that protected their left flank. If Generals Jackson and Echols had fortified the back road over which the flanking units marched, and protected their lines by falling timber and temporary breast works on the mountain side, which they had abundant time to do, their position would have been impregnable. The mere height of a mountain is of but slight advantage to those defending it, if they are not protected by breast works. When the 10th West Va. Infantry succeeded in gaining a position on the left of the Confederate line, the Confederate commander seeing their peril and danger of being cut off, ordered a retreat. The roads being blocked by cavalry, artillery and wagon trains caused much confusion. The Union victory was not the result of lack of numbers on the Confederate side, nor to the gallantry of her soldiers, but a lack on the part of their commanders to comprehend the situation and take advantage of their position.

front,
on foot, and

June 19, 1940

Nelle I. McLaughlin
Marlinton, W. Va.

POCAHONTAS COUNTY

Partial reports made by the leading officers who participated in the Battle of Droop Mountain.

General Averell's Report:

On the first day of November, I left Beverly with my command consisting of the 28th Ohio Volunteer Infantry, Col. A. Moor; 10th West Virginia Infantry, Col. T. M. Harris; 2nd West Virginia Mounted Infantry, Lieut. Col. A. Scott; 3rd West Virginia Mounted Infantry, Col. J. H. Oley; 14th Pennsylvania Cavalry, Col. J. N. Schoonmaker; Gibson's Battalion and Batteries B & G, First West Virginia Light Artillery, Capt. J. V. Keeper and C. T. Ewing.

On the morning of the 6th we approached the enemy's position. The infantry and one corps of cavalry was sent to the right to ascend a range of hills, with orders to attack the enemy's left and rear, the attack of our infantry, 1,175 strong was conducted skillfully by Col. Moor.

The 2nd, 3rd, and 8th, dismounted, were moved in line obliquely to the right, until their right was joined to Moor's left. Col. Moor says when he arrived in front of the enemy's position, at 1:45 P. M. he formed a line and ordered Col. Harris to move up in double quick, who arrived in the nick of time.

Lieut. Col. Scott's Report.

Lieut. Col. Alex. Scott, 2nd West Virginia Mounted Infantry, says that about 12 o'clock, having moved to the front, "I was ordered to dismount my command and fight on foot, and

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was ordered to take a position between the third and eighth. At this time we found the 3rd, 8th and 14th Pennsylvania Cavalry in line of battle, with Jackson's force. The 2nd, 3rd and 8th West Virginia Infantry, immediately in front of the breast works".

I went into action with two hundred men; out of that number, there were nine killed, fourteen wounded, two mortally wounded, seven severely and five slightly.

Report of Colonel John Oley

Eighth West Virginia Mounted Infantry. After taking my place with column on the morning of the 6th, I was ordered to clear the hills up to the foot of Droop Mountain of Skirmishers, and pickets. About 1P. M. I was notified that the 2nd and 3rd Mounted Infantry would take a position on my right, and was ordered to assault the enemy's works in conjunction with them.

Col. James N. Schoonmaker's Report

Col. James N. Schoonmaker, 14th Pennsylvania Cavalry says that "On the morning of the 6th, I was ordered with my regiment and Keeper's Battery, to move to the extreme right of the enemy, who had again taken a position on the almost naturally fortified summit of Droop Mountain, and keep up a fire on their forces that their attention might be drawn from Col. Moor, who was to make an attack on their left. Knowing of the intended assault of Col. Moor, I immediately got my regiment reformed, and passed with two sections of artillery on the double

POCAHONTAS COUNTY

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quick from the extreme right to the center."

Report of Major Thos Gibson, 14th Pennsylvania Cavalry.

" On the 1st day of November, I moved with the Brigade and continued with it until the 5th day of November, on which day I marched to Cackleytown, by way of Marlin's Bottom, with the train".

The 10th West Virginia Infantry lost eight killed and twenty-seven wounded.

The 28th Ohio Infantry lost five killed and twenty-one wounded.

CONFEDERATE REPORTS.

Brig. General John Echols.

Gen. Echols says that he placed his forces at the crest of the mountain. The batteries of Chapman and Jackson under the command of Major W. McLaughlin, were placed near where Col. Jackson had placed two pieces of his battery under the command of Capt. Lurty.

Col. G. S. Patton was placed in command of the First Brigade, viz: the 22nd Virginia Infantry, Maj. R. A. Bailey; the 23rd Virginia Battalion, Major Wm. Blessing commanding; then at the right of the turnpike road near the summit, and Maj. Bailey's 22nd Regiment in the rear of the Battery. At this time, Colonel Thompson's 19th Virginia Cavalry was moved to the left with one hundred and seventy-five men and was

POCAHONTAS COUNTY

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shortly reinforced by six companies of the 23rd Battalion, later, Colonel Patton was ordered to detach these companies of the 22nd Virginia Infantry under Captain John K. Thompson. Colonel George S. Patton commanded Echol's Brigade. The 22nd Virginia went into action with five hundred and fifty strong, losing one hundred and thirteen in killed, wounded and missing. The 23rd Virginia Battalion, three hundred and fifty strong, lost sixty-one in killed, wounded and missing.

Three companies of the 22nd under Captain Thompson, one hundred and twenty-five strong, lost nine killed, thirty wounded, twelve missing. Battle ended at 4 P. M.

Report of Maj. Wm. Blessing, 23rd Virginia Battalion

" When the fighting became very severe I was ordered to march with six companies to the support of Captain Marshall, who, with one hundred and twenty-five dismounted cavalry, was being forced back on the left.

We were then forced back to a fence at the Bloody Angle. We were then reinforced by three companies of the 22nd Virginia Infantry, and one dismounted company of the 14th Virginia Cavalry.

Report of Colonel Thompson

Colonel Thompson, 19th Virginia Cavalry, says that he sent one hundred cavalry under command of Captain Marshall,

POCAHONTAS COUNTY

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the command consisting of the 19th and 20th Virginia Cavalry just then, Major Blessing commanding Dennings Battery, consisting of three hundred men, he having deployed his men on the right of the line formed by Captain Marshall.

Report of Col. W. Wiley, 20th Virginia Cavalry

Says that about 2 P. M. we were attacked by the 2nd and 3rd and 8th West Virginia Mounted Infantry.

Report of Col. Milton J. Ferguson

Colonel Ferguson, 16th Virginia Cavalry, says that he reported to General Echols on the 5th of November, who was then on the march, and arrived at the camp of Colonel Jackson at the eastern base of Droop Mountain, at 6 A. M. on the morning of the 6th. One squadron of the 14th Regiment was ordered to take position on the old road of Locust Creek. The efficient men of six companies were dismounted, four companies placed on the extreme left under command of Lieutenant Colonel Gibson and two companies in center. John D. Baxter, orderly sergeant of Company F, 10th West Virginia Infantry, was the first one to cross the rail fence at the bloody angle, and fell mortally wounded inside the enemy's lines.

This whole report has been taken from "Report of Droop Mountain Battlefield Commission" John D. Sutton, Chairman.

POCAHONTAS COUNTY

-5-

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This whole report has been taken from "Report of Droop Mountain Battlefield Commission" John D. Sutton, Chairman.

History

Battle of Droop Mountain

November 6, 1863

words
1000

Pella T Yeager ✓

Events and dates preceding battle
Troops engaged

Source:
Captain E. R. Howery

— Battle History

Battle of Droop Mountain

November 6, 1863

words
1000

Pella T Yeager ✓

Events and dates preceding battle
Troops engaged

Source:
Captain E. R. Hovary

Hella F. Yeager

Hella Yeager
From notes about to her

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BATTLE OF DROOP MOUNTAIN
November 6, 1863

By Capt. E. R. Howery

EVENTS AND DATES PRECEDING BATTLE

- Nov. 1, 1863--Gen. W. W. Averell left Beverly, West Virginia
- Nov. 3, 1863--Gen. A. N. Duffie left Charleston, West Virginia
- Nov. 5, 1863--Gen. John Echols occupied Droop Mountain

Number of troops engaged (Union)----4700
 Number of troops (Confederate)----3950
 Number Killed (Union)----- 130
 Number killed (Confederate)----- 400

Troops from West Virginia, Virginia, Ohio and Pennsylvania took part in the battle.

The Battle of Droop Mountain was fought November 6th, 1863 between Union Forces, commanded by Brig. Gen. William W. Averell, U. S. Army, and confederates troops under the command of Brig. Gen. John Echols, C. S. Army.

One of the reasons for the meeting of these two forces in West Virginia at this time was; The western part of Virginia was inhabited by people who were in favor of the Union, so June 20th, 1863 the old state of Virginia became divided into Virginia and West Virginia.

Confederate troops then were sent into the newly formed state so as to harass the Union troops in that vicinity, also to break down the morale of the people who had left the old state of Virginia. The Southern Troops were very successful. They occupied the Greenbrier Valley with Headquarters at Lewisburg. The road from Lewisburg via Union to the Virginia border was the only available road to Virginia and Tennessee and had the Union troops who were located in the vicinity of Elkins and near Charleston separated. Also winter was coming and the Confederate forces had to be drawn

A DETERMINED EFFORT TO SETTLE THE
LONG PENDING DEBT QUESTION.

According to a statement of Mr. James M. Mason, of Charlestown, W. Va., who claims to be of counsel, a syndicate of English and American holders of Virginia certificates has been formed to make a bold dash for the settlement of the debt question between the Virginias. The first step is to be the securing of a stating of account between the two States to ascertain the equitable share of West Virginia's portion of the debt. This being a controversy between two States, Mr. Mason says the Federal Supreme Court has exclusive jurisdiction, and everybody will be satisfied with the decision. Mr. Mason, who is now in Wheeling, gives the following as to the present movement:

"The creditors co-operate to bring about a settlement. They appoint an agent, who will accept what is paid by West Virginia.—The State of Virginia will institute in the Supreme Court a friendly suit for a settlement against West Virginia. The court will order commissioners (who will probably be selected by the two States) to state an account, and a judgment will be rendered against West Virginia in favor of Virginia for the balance ascertained to be due.

The certificates are to be pooled. It is simply a common contrivance to create the necessary agency without tying up the certificates. The certificates are lodged with a stakeholder, under a contract, which defines the power and duty of the agent, and the stakeholder issues for each certificate a negotiable receipt. We distinguish between the security and its owner. The agent represents the owner, whosoever he may be.—The receipt passes from hand to hand precisely as the certificate would do, and it carries notice to every subsequent holder that the certificate has been subjected to the terms of the contract.

There is nothing to conceal. The more the public knows the better we will be pleased. Soutler & Co., of 78 Broadway, represent the creditors. This house was established by James T. Soutler. He was the president of the Bank of Norfolk, and went to New York many years before the war to become president of the Bank of the Republic and the agent of Virginia to negotiate her loans. The certificates will be deposited with the Farmers' Loan and Trust Company, one of the oldest and most respectable institutions in this country."

Mr. Mason further says the present Legislature of West Virginia will be asked for action in the matter. He says there is no speculation in the matter; that it is conducted publicly and under the supervision of committees composed of gentlemen of the highest social and business standing, who have been selected by the London and American holders of the certificates.

Prouty Mothers.

^{25th}
Company (I) A was engaged in the following battles: Phillippi, McDowell,
Winchester, Cross Keys, Port Republic, Seven days fight around Richmond,
Slaughter Mountain, Fredricksburg, Second Winchester, Gettysburg, Mine Run,
and Wilderness. In the latter the 25th Regiment was captured, Seventeen men of
Company (I) were captured. they were first taken to point lookout, Md., thence to
Elmira, N. Y. Eleven of the seventeen lived through the war, the others
died prisoners.

(This above note is taken from Historical sketches of Pocahontas
County History By the Rev Wm T. Price.)

COMPANY " I " 25th Reg- Virginia Infantry C.S.A.

D.A.Stopher , Captain.

J.H.McLaughlin 1st Lieutenant.

Angus, Timoleon	Swadley, James,	Varner, David A.
Alderman, Andy, C.	Egan Charles,	Weaver, C.W.
Akers, James H.	Ervine William H.	<i>Weaver, R.L.</i> Weaver, Eugene
Arbogast , Daniel,	Friel, M. A.	Ware, WilliamT.
Boon, B.B.	Grandfield, John.	<i>Ware, George,</i> Ware Benjamin
Burr, George.	Griffin, M.P.	Willihan, Michael
Burr, Fredrick,	Grames Peter,	Willihan, Pat
Burr, William,	Gannon, William,	Waugh, Levi.
Bradley, James,	Gannon, C. S.	
Corbett, Mustoe, H.	Hannah, Robert,	
Cleek, Peter L.	Hannah, Joseph	
Cash, George H.	Helmick, George A,	
Carpenter, William H.	Henson, William H.	
Cole, Willaim,	Hogsette, William, R.	
Johnson, Joe,	Herold, C.B.	
Lyons, Enos, Moore Levi,	Herold, B.B.	
Moore Levi ,	<i>Hairs J.B.</i> Hamilton, A.G.	
Mc Laughlin, H. P.	Jordan, Joseph J.	
Maher, Patrick	Slaven. W.W.	
Moore, Michael,	Seebert, Lanty S.	
Mitche, Sylvester,	Sivey, Cain, H.	
Mathew, J.W.	Shannon, James	
Moriarty, Pat,	Shannon, Michael	
Piles, John,	Smith, Louis	
Piles, William L.	Simmons, C.A.	
Pence, J.W.	Shrader, B.F.	
Robey, Walter H.		

COMPANY- F - 19th VIRGINIA CAVALRY, C.S.A POCAHONTAS COUNTY WEST Va.

- WmL. JACKSON , COLONEL,
- W m P. THOMPSON Lieut - COLONEL,
- Wm L. Mc Neel, CAPTAIN.
- J. Woods Price 1st Lieut
- JOHN J. BEARD, #3rd LIEUT-
- Geo W. SIPLE. 1st Lieut.

- Arbogast, Paul,
- Amentrout, Chas,
- Bruffey, William, (Adjutant ---)
- Beard, Chas W. wounded near Winchester)
- Barnett, Stephen,
- Bennett, GranvillB,
- Bennett, Levi.
- Burner Chas C.
- Brown Robert B. (from Wahington)
- Cackley, Wm H.
- Carpenter Hugh,
- Callison, Thomas H.
- Cochran, Geo B.
- Cochran, Samuel.
- Cochran Thomas,
- Coulter, Geo,
- Collins Wm H.
- Clark Samuel T.
- Clark, James.
- Dorman Hiras,
- Ervin, Wm H.
- Edmiston, Richard H.

Winston Abraham,
Galford, Harrison,
Galford, James,
Gak Jos C,
Gillispie, W m
Gum John E.
Gannon, Cyrus H.
Hartman, Wm,
Hartman Peter,
Hamilton, Chas, (from Bath Co,)
Hannah, Robert,
Hevener, Uriah,
Hevener Samuel,
Hull, Joseph,
Jackson, Geo W.
Jackson, John S.
Kinnison, Wm E.
Kinnison, Nat. C. B.
Kerr, David,
Kerr, Jas D.
Kerr, Jacob,
Kerr, Andrew,
Kyle, Sinclars,
Kellison, Jos A.
Kellison Chas.
Kellison, Samuel C.
Kincaide, Anthony,
Lockridge, Jas T.
Ligon, Dr, John.
Lewis, C.M.

Lowery Robert,
Mc Neal Geo S.
McNeel Andrew G.
McNeel Mathew John,
Mc Neel John A,
McDevitt John,
McCoy G, Wash-
McCoy Noah D.
Mc Laughlin Geo
McLaughlin Jas,
McCarty Dee,
Morrison Jas,
Murphy, Thos,
Overholt, Wm H.
Phillips, Geo.
Ballard Geo R.
Price, Calvin J.
Price James H.
Poage, Wm H.
Payne Wm H.
Puffenbarger, Jas-
Pullin, Adam C.
Pugh, Wilson,
Pugh. Curtis,
Ruckman, Sidney,
Ruckman Chas,
Rider, Hezekiah,
Rousy, Dr ---
Ramsey, _____
Ruckman, Jas W.

Stulting, Nicholas,

Sutton, Samuel J.

Sutton Geo M.

Slaven Lanty,

Slaven Randolph,

Sharp Henry,

Shisler, Jas.

Sheets , William,

Shiflett, Samuel,

Sharp, Andrew,

Taylor, Wm-

Umpheys, Madison,

Vanreenan, John.

Wooddell Jacob,

Wilfong John,

Wilfong , David ,

Walton Frank W.

Wilmoth Wm L.

Wilkinson, Alfred,

ROSTER OF COMPANY " I " 19th Cavalry C.S.A.

Captain J.W. Marshall (Randolph Co)

1st Lieut J.W. Wamsley "

2nd Lieut, George Gay "

3rd Lieut Jacob Simmons

Orderly Sergeants Levi Gay.

" " Jacob Ward, (Randolph)

" " Wm A, Moore

Ward Andrew	Dilley Thomas,	Logan James	
Ward Renick <i>and LCC</i>	Farley Andy,	McCutchan John,	Ratiliff William,
Ward Geo,	Farley Wm,	McCalpin Wm,	Ratliff Jas M.
Ward Elishugh	Fox Jasper	McClintic W H.	Morrison James, k Droop
Wambley Samuel,	Gay Joseph,	McLaughlin Harper,	Manly John
Wamsley Adam,	Gum McBride,	McLaughlin Geo,	
Wambley George,	Gum Ervin	McLaughlin Andrew, (Lieut)	
Wiley Marcellus,	Galford Brown	McLaughlin John C.	
Woods, Henry	Gwin Clayton,	Moore Mack,	
Gibson William,	Moore Gibson William,	Moore Samuel,	
Wilmoth Wm L.			
Ward Thomas	Harper F. W.	Perry William,	
-----	Harper P. W.	Painter Wm,	
Ammentrout Geo	<i>HARPER Peter</i>		
Asford Clayborn	Hamilton, George Poage	Wash,	
Arbogast Vanburan,	Hamilton J. D. (from Bath)		
Aberman, Walter,	Hevener William,	Propst Adam,	
Bester, John R.	Hall, A J.	Sheets Henry ,	
Bester Rollen J.	Knapp Thomas,	Simmons Adam,	
Baker John,	Kramer Henry,	Simmons Jones,	
Booper William.	Kinnison W. M.	Simmons Jessie,	
Currence Adam, Currence	Ligon Dr John,	Tacy John ,	
Currence John.	Lightner Anthony,	Thomas John,	
Evdy, Wm,	Lockridge James T,	Varner John,	

When the Levels Cavalry under Captain Andrew G. McNeel, 1861 were disbanded many of its members joined the Bath Cavalry under Captain Archie Richards, April 25th 1862 this company was formed into two companies "F" and "G" and was known as the Bath Squadron, attached to the Virginia 11th Cavalry.

Dr A.G. Mc Chesney was Captain of Company F. and A. C. L. Gatewood 1st Sergeant and Edwin S. Beard 2nd Sergeant

Foxhall A. Daingerfield was Captain of Company " G " (of the Bath Squadron)
 Warwick
 John Andrew Warick 2nd Lieutenant by brevet

Arbough, John,	Colter , william	McCarty, John,	Smith, Isaac B.
Arbough James,	Edminston, Andrew	McNeel A.G.	Sharp, Henry.
Auldrige, John,	Edminston Mathew,	Mc Neel Ellis,	Thomas, French,
Auldrige T, M.	Edminston, Richard,	McNeel J.W.	Varner, John ,
Auldrige W. H.	Friel , James	McNeel, Clayborn,	Warwick Jas, W.
Beard Edgar S.	Gay, Levi,	McKeever, Abram,	Wooddell , T .C.
Beard, J, W, M.	Gay Samuel L.	McKeever, Reuben,	Wanless, Stephen,
Beard W.M.	Gay, Hamilton	McLaughlin Harper,	Young, Geo,
Beard, John G.	Higgins William,	McLaughlin Geo H.	
Burnside , Jas,	Hill, Geo,	Moore, Brison.	
Blair, Claiburn,	Hill Isaac.	Moffit, G.H.	
Blair, John,	Hill, William,	Moore, Jacob S.	
Collisson, James,	Irvin, J.W.	Price, Andrew G.	
Courtney, Thomas,	Kinnisson, John L.	Price, Rev, W. T. (Chap)	
Cochran, Clark ,	Kinnisson, Davis,	Poage, Moffit,	
Curry, James,	Kinnisson, Wm E.	Rodger, Chesley K.	
Casbolt , Geo,	Kinnisson, David,	Ruckman, James A.	
Glendennin John,	Kinnisson, H Ezekiah ,	Rankins, Geo W.	
Cochran , Geo,	Kollisson, Wash-	Ruckman, David,	
Cochran, F. S.	McLewee, D. B.	Scales, Michael.	
Colter Allen.	McLewee B. D.	Simmons, Joseph,	

(Union Soldiers)

Pocahontas County, taken as a majority supported the Southern Confederacy. There was no Union Companies organized in the County; There were but very few Union Soldiers in the Greenbank District, and only about 40 Union Soldiers in the entire County, But from Pocahontas County there were about 20 soldiers we enlisted in the Company " I " of the 3rd West Virginia Cavalry . U.S. A. All the names that are available are as follows.

- Buzzard Perry.
- Barlow, Wesley.
- Duncan. J.H.
- Grimes, Peter H.
- Grimes Frank.
- Grimes Zane .B.
- Gay, Alfred D.
- Grimes Clark.
- Hannah, J .B.
- Kelly John.
- Kelly, C. N.
- Kelly Calvin,
- Kelly W. A.
- McCarty George.
- Sims W .H.
- Sims D K.
- Sharp C W O,
- Sharp Abraham,
- Tylet John W,
- Waugh Beverly.

POCAHONTAS COUNTY

Juanita S. Dilley
Clover Lick, W. Va.

Chapter 4

August 16, 1940

LYNCHINGS in POCAHONTAS COUNTY

There have been no lynchings in the county for two generations and the three that we have record of took place during the Civil War. The following is taken from the Pocahontas Times for January 28, 1932, and was written by Calvin Price.

In January 1862, a colored man belonging to John W. Warwick was taken by a mob, from the jail in Huntersville, and hanged on a tree.

Rev. Henry Arbogast and Eli Buzzard were taken from their homes and shot near the roadside. Their bodies were found next day.

(I have sent something in on this before)

Timothy Alderman of ^{*Southards*} ~~Keener~~ Creek was taken from his home and shot to death in the woods near the bridge at Minnehaha Springs. His body was not found for three weeks. Whether all were killed the same night, I do not know. I do know that Timothy Alderman was murdered on the night of January 22, 1862. The reason of the inflamed feeling against these men was the fact that they were Union Sympathizers and had been accused of giving information to the Federal forces. Large bodies of Confederate soldiers were camped in various parts of the county that winter.

Timothy Alderman was one of several who had warning that they were in danger. He was preparing to hide himself in the mountains and was waiting for his clothes to dry when the lynchers came for him.

he was 56 years 11 months and 28 days old the day he was murdered, Jan. 22. He was found February 9. He left a widow and eight small children, the youngest a daughter of two years, who sickened and died with dyptheria about the day her father was found. They were buried in the same grave.

Two of his granddaughters, Mrs. C. H. Kellison and Mrs. Lanty Underwood sent me a poem written some years after by Mary Ann Alderman and here it is.

Attend dear friends, while we relate

A sad and solemn story;

How treacherous fiends and bloody men

With hearts and hands all gory,

Three years ago, now past and gone

Here in this neighborhood;

Murdered a Christian Union man

And called it all for good.

He was a pious, harmless man

All wicked men did shun;

He told them that secession

Was anything but fun.

But oh, my heart, it bleeds to think

What sorrow did divide;

The murderers came at close of day

And took this man aside.

They took him from his happy home.

And those he loved so dear,
No more to see their smiling faces
Nor their sweet voices hear.

They took him just three miles from home,
Along the darksome way;
And there the murderers murdered him,
Down in a field he lay.

For three long weeks in hopeless woe,
Friends searched for him in vain;
When lo, one stormy winters eve
They him beheld again.

Yes, there the loving father lay
The murdered man was found;
His face was buried in the snow,
And frozen to the ground.

But soon he was taken home,
And there was laid to rest;
No more to be with those he loved,
But he was with the blessed.

The widow and the orphans left,
To mourn their wretched lot;
Comforted like Rachel, they refused
Because their friend is not.

But God has said that He will be
 A husband and a friend,
 A father to the orphan child
 And aid and comfort lend.

Then weep no more, ye mourning friends,
 But ask to be forgiven;
 Then you may meet the one you love
 In that bright home in Heaven.

The rosebud now is bursting forth,
 Around that peaceful spot;
 Where slumbers his moulded frame,
 But he is not forgot.

Perhaps the learner of this song
 His name would like to see;
 Timothy Alderman it was
 While he on earth did be.

Mrs. John Lee another granddaughter gave me this clipping when I was at her home getting material on their church. She says that a man claimed to have had a dream and said that he saw Alderman's body at a certain spot. They went to this place and did find the body, but they always thought this man knew something more than just having a dream.

(I am sending this because I thought it might help to show the feelings brought on by the war.)

Civil War

Shortly after the Civil War a political orator waved the bloody flag at Edray and urged the people to vote the way they had shot. Rev. John Waugh replied to him something like this: "The war is over. It is our duty to promote peace. I had a son in the Confederate army and I had a son in the Union army. If the hostilities continue, the factions will be holding their basket dinners in different hollows." This was the last effort on the part of any speaker to make a bloody flag speech in this county .

From 1926 W. Va. Blue Book

* (red) The Civil War marked the division line in this county between the old and the new. The thinking men in the county were especially interested in the 1870 in introducing appliances that the soldiers had observed on their campaigns. This was the line of demarkation between the sickle and the grain cradle, the flintlock rifle and the repeating rifle, the introduction of the steam engine and the portable sawmill to take the place of the water turned mill, kerosene lamps for candle light. M. A. Friel of near Clover Lick owned the first kerosene lamp ever in the county in 1865.

But more than anything else that spurred the business men of Pocahontas County was the success of James E. A. Gibbs, of Marlinton, who after the Civil War found he was rich because of the success of a chain stitch sewing machine he had invented just before the war.

The older citizens of today have seen the adoption of such things as the steam engine, sewing machine (1872), turbine wheel, telephone (1898), printing ships (1882) bend mills, and many more. On the other hand, during this period, we lost a great many skilled workmen such as candlemakers, farriers, shoemakers, weavers, spinners, taylors, harnessmakers, saddlers, stonemasons and the like. This was especially true after the covered wagons began to make regular trips to bring in freight from Millbore, Staunton, Huttonsville, and Ronceverte and with the coming of the railroads in 1901 they became fewer and fewer.

The industrial developments were gradual. This county developed along with the internal developments of Virginia through the building of turnpikes in the 1830-50.

31
At this time our natural resources were practically untouched. Agriculture and grazing of live stock were the chief industries.

*(green) Agriculture was the chief pursuit of the early settlers of Pocahontas county. Because travel was difficult and transportation facilities were meager, the settlers were compelled to be practically self sustaining. Gardening, together with the growing of small patches of buckwheat, corn, beans, and potatoes, largely constituted the early farming enterprises. Later cattle, sheep, and hogs were introduced principally for mildm wool and meat to supplement the supply of wild game and fish that was an important source of food and clothing. Trapping furnished furs and skins that could be traded for the few supplies not produced at home. The bottom lands were generally devoted to grain and hay, and the adjacent slopes were cleared and used for pasture. The land has always been farmed, for the most part, in small tracts by the owners. Few slaves were owned and the freeing of them did not affect agriculture.

Between 1880 and 1890 the production of all grains and crops increased materially. The total acreage in all grains has remained fairly constant since 1890, but acreage in certain crops have fluctuated considerably. Corn has been in the lead at all times followed by either wheat or oats. Hay increased from 10,817 acres in 1879 to 15,138 acres in 1889 and has increased very little since, but the acre yield has been more than doubled. Since 1900 the total number of hogs and cattle has dropped off slightly, but the number of sheep raised and the production of wool, dairy products, poultry and eggs have increased considerably. The acreage occupied by potatoes and garden crops most of which are grown for home use, fluctuates from year to year.

Between 1880 and 1910 the number of farms steadily increased from 682 to 1,198, the latter figure being only 3 below that given by the 1930 census report. As the size of the farms has decreased slightly in the last 50 years, the total amount of land in farms has remained fairly constant.

Poor transportation facilities, long distance from markets, and the need of cash income forced the farmers of this section in early days to turn to the production of beef. Even now with railroad shipping available, it remains the largest source of income. Formerly all cattle, when ready for market, were driven overland. To outside markets, principally pittsburg, Baltimore and Clarksburg. Many were sold as feeders

the Shenandoah and Patomac Valleys to the east and were later marketed from there.
Practically all the cattle were sold grass fattened.

Farming methods and management were governed largely by the steepness of the land and the size of the farm. Soon after transportation facilities became available the larger land owners brought in mowing machines, reapers, buggy rakes and wagons, but on the smaller patch farms and on steep or stony lands, much of the work was still done by hand, and continues so even today.

* (red) From---Pocahontas Times --- 1929
by --- Andrew Price

* (green) From---Report on Poca. County
by --- Dr. B. H. Williams of the U. S. Depart. of Agri.

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VOLUME XVII.

The Greenbrier Independent,

PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY EVENING BY
W A B L O W & A R G A B E R T H E .

RATES OF SUBSCRIPTION :

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ROSTER OF COMPANY " G " 31st REGIMENT OF VIRGINIA C . S . A .

VOLANTEERS , (Made up mostly of Soldiers of Pocahontas County)

Compiled from the Muster and Pay Rolls from September 1st 1861, to Feb 26th 1864 on file in the West Virginia department of Archives and History.

Organized at Greenbank , and Mustered into service at Huttonsville, May 1861. Enlistments at Greenbank, Laurel Hill, and Top Allegheny.

James Crawford Arbogast , Captain May 29th 1861.

James Crawford Arbogast was promoted to Major Vice. when J.H.Chenoweth was killed at Port Republic June 9th 1862.

George W. Siple, 1st Lieut May 29th 1861.

James Franklin Gum, 2nd Lieut May 29th 1861.

Sidney Ruckma, 1st Lieut, May 29th 1861. Promoted from 2nd Sergeant, Command Co- 62.

C.B.Ruckman 2nd Lieut May 29th 1861, resigned Nov 14th 1862.

Elisha Wilfong, 2nd Lieut May 29th 1861, Commanded Company after Nov 1862- was wounded at Gettysburg on July 3rd 1863.

John R. Warwick, 2nd Lieut, May 29th 1861, Promoted from 1st Sergeant, wounded at Port Republic June 8th 1862. Prisoner June 19th 1864.

Non- Commissioned Officers.

William H. Hull. 1st Sergeant May 29th 1861. Wounded 12th of May 1864 (at the " Bloody Angle " at Spottsylvania .

George W. Arbogast 2nd Sgt, May 29th 1861, Wounded Port Republic June 9th 1862 at Port Republic, Killed Spottsylvania May 12th 1864 (in the Bloody Angle)

John W. Nottingham 2nd Sergeant May 29th 1861. Killed at Spottsylvania May 12 1864

Robert Wolfenbarger, 3rd Sergeant March 17th 1862. Wounded , and Prisoner Fort Steadman- March 25th 1865.

William B. Kerr, 3rd Sergt, March 17th 1862, Died at Staunton Nov 8th 1862.

Valentine Gillispie 4th Sergt May 29th 1861, absent after Nov 1862.

William Hughes 4th Sergt March 17th 1862.

John J. Hicks. 5th Sergt, May 29th 1862. Killed Port Republic June 9th 1862.

William Hicks. Corp May 29th 1861.

John P. Varner, 1st Corp Mar 17th 1862.
James W. Hughs 2nd Corp. March 17th 1862
Emanuel Wilfong, Corp May 29th 1861.
Milton Campbell 2nd Corp ~~1861~~ June 22nd 1861 , died of wounds nat White Hall, July 27 1862.
Henry Sheets ,Corp June 22nd 1861.
Jonas Wilfong 3rd Corp March 17th 1861.
George B. Arbough, 4th Corp , March 17th 1862.
Samuel G. Lindsey May 29th 1862. (4th Corp ,)

PRIVATES ENLISTED REMARKS ;

Bible, John A. May 29th 1861. died of wounds at June 9th 1862 at Port Republic .
Eoyer Leonard. May 29th 1861. Substitute for D.V Ruckman.
Burner Allen C. June 22nd 1861.
Beverage George W. May 26th 1861. Wounded at the Top Allegheny mountain Dec 13th 1861
Beverage William M.
Beard Joel E. June 22nd 1861 . Died Sept 28th 1861.
Carpenter Crawford , March 17th 1862.
Courtney Andrew J. March 17th 1862.
Carpenter Samuel, March 17th 1862. Died of wounds at Port Republic June 9th 1862.
Carpenter John M. March 17th 1862. Wounded at Hazel River Aug 22nd 1862., absent
after Jan 1863 .Died from Disease.
Bassell George, March 17th 1862 , Died from wounds at Port Republic. June 9th 1862
Collins Charles March 17th 1862 .Discharged on account of his age.
Collins James March 17th 1862.
Collins William, ~~March 17th 1862~~ March 17th 1862 discharged on account of age.
Boyl Ele. March 17th 1862. Discharged on account of his age.
Erwin William E.
Boyl Joshua March 17th 1862 wounded at Port Republic June 9th 1862.
Gillispie Valentine , Killed near Romney 1863.
Galford John A. March 17th 1862. died of wounds Jan 13th 1863

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Gum George. May 29th 1861.
Gum Robert N. May 29th 1861.
Gum McBride, May 29th 1861.
Gum James H. May 29th 1861.
Halterman Levi May 29th 1861 Transferred to Company "A" 25th Virginia Infantry.
Hamilton James G. May 29th 1861. Taken prisoner , exchanged again captured and exchange was wounded May 5th 1864, at the Wilderness Battle .
Hevener Harvey May 29th 1861. wounded at Cold Harbor May 30th 1864.
Hicks, Charles B. May 29th 1861.
Hicks William E.
Hicks C.W. May 29th 1861.
Hicks John C. Killed Port Republic June 9th 1862.
Higgins James. May 29th 1861. Missing at Winchester July 19th 1864.
Higgins Samuel H. May 29th 1864.
Higgins John C. Died in Prison.
Houchin Charles H. March 17th 1862. Died of Wounds at Port Republic June 9th 1862.
Hudson Dallas, March 17th 1862. Killed at Port Republic June 9th 1862.
Hull Robert, March 17th 1862.
Hull Henry. March 17th 1862 Wounded Spottsylvania May 12th 1864. Prisoner Fort Steadman 1865
Hughes, J. W. March 17th 1862 taken prisoner , and exchanged.
Kerr George , March 17th 1862. Discharged on account of his age.
Kelly , Cyrus H. March 17th 1862.
Lindsey, Robert D. May 29th 1862 wounded at the Battle of Port Republic.
Lockridge Robert C. March 17th 1862.
Logan James A. May 29th 1862. Discharged on account of his age.
Long John, May 29th 1862. Wounded died of wounds Spottsylvania , May 12th 1864.
Long Henry March 17th 1862

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Lockridge Robert C. March 17th 1862.
Logan James A. May 29th 1862. Discharged on account of his age.
Long John, May 29th 1862. Wounded died of wounds Spottsylvania , May 12th 1864.
Long Henry March 17th 1862

Lafayette. March 17th 1862. died of wounds at Spottsylvania May 12th 1864.
McLaughlin James N. May 29th 1862.
McLaughlin Hugh, May 29th 1862. Wounded at Dummore July 25th 1862; taken Prisoner
at South Fork Pendleton County , exchanged at Vixburg.
McLaughlin Robert May 29th 1862. made prisoner at Point Lookout April 5th 1865.
McLaughlin Jacob, May 29th 1862 Killed Cedar Creek October 19th 1864.
Moore Charles L. March 17th 1862 , Wounded Wilderness May 6th 1864.
Moore James C. March 17th 1862 Died of wounds at Gains Mill July 20th 1862.
Moore Mathias L. March 17th 1862. Wounded Wilderness Battle May 5th 1864.
Notting^{ham} John , May 29th 1862. Killed Spottsylvania May 12th 1864.
Nottingham Washington March 17th 1862. Discharged on account of his age.
Phillips George W. March 17th 1862; Wounded at Cedar Run Aug 9th 1862. returned to
Company Feb 1864 , transferred to Company "F" 19th Virginia Cavalry .
Pugh Ira Ellis. March 17th 1862 , Discharged on account of his Age.
Ruckman Samuel June 22nd 1861. died October 24th 1861
Ratliff John May 29th 1862 Died of disease 1862.
Ratliff Daniel, June 25th 1862.
Sharp Daniel June 25th 1862.
Shafer Andrew, May 29th 1862. Wounded at Spottsylvania May 12th 1864.
Shoals James, May 29th 1862. Killed at the Wilderness Battle May 6th 1864.
Spencer J Jack, March 17th 1862. taken Prisoner at Strasburg , June 2nd 1862.
Spencer James M. Prisoner at the Battle of the Wilderness.
Simons Jacob , June 22nd 1862.
Sutton George B.
Sutton John G. March 17th 1862. Discharged on account of his age.
Sutton Samuel J. May 29th 1862.
Slaton William W. May 29th 1861 , Wounded October 3rd 1861 at Bartow.
Slaton Andrew J. Killed trying to pass Confederate Pickets at Top Allegheny Mountain. 1861
Sheets Andrew May 29th 1861.
Sheets Isaac , Died from wounds received on Top Allegheny Mountain. Dec 13th 1861

Lafayette. March 17th 1862. died of wounds at Spottsylvania May 12th 1864.
McLaughlin James N. May 29th 1862.
McLaughlin Hugh, May 29th 1862. Wounded at Dummore July 25th 1862; taken Prisoner
at South Fork Pendleton County , exchanged at Vixburg.
McLaughlin Robert May 29th 1862. made prisoner at Point Lookout April 5th 1865.
McLaughlin Jacob, May 29th 1862 Killed Cedar Creek October 19th 1864.
Moore Charles L. March 17th 1862 , Wounded Wilderness May 6th 1864.
Moore James C. March 17th 1862 Died of wounds at Gains Mill July 20th 1862.
Moore Mathias L. March 17th 1862. Wounded Wilderness Battle May 5th 1864.
Notting^{ham} John , May 29th 1862. Killed Spottsylvania May 12th 1864.
Nottingham Washington March 17th 1862. Discharged on account of his age.
Phillips George W. March 17th 1862; Wounded at Cedar Run Aug 9th 1862. returned to
Company Feb 1864 , transferred to Company "F" 19th Virginia Cavalry .
Pugh Ira Ellis. March 17th 1862 , Discharged on account of his Age.
Ruckman Samuel June 22nd 1861. died October 24th 1861
Ratliff John May 29th 1862 Died of disease 1862.
Ratliff Daniel, June 25th 1862.
Sharp Daniel June 25th 1862.
Shafer Andrew, May 29th 1862. Wounded at Spottsylvania May 12th 1864.
Sheals James, May 29th 1862. Killed at the Wilderness Battle May 6th 1864.
Spencer J Jack, March 17th 1862. taken Prisoner at Strasburg , June 2nd 1862.
Spencer James H. Prisoner at the Battle of the Wilderness.
Simons Jacob , June 22nd 1862.
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Sutton John G. March 17th 1862. Discharged on account of his age.
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Townsend William T. March 17th 1862.
Townsend Taylor. March 17th 1862.
Thomas John B. March 17th 1862. wounded Cedar Run , missing after Sept 1862.
Taylor Andrew J. March 17th 1862. taken prisoner parolled.
Taylor Jacob K. March 17th 1862.
Tracy George March 17th 1862. Discharged on account of his age.
Tracy James A. Sept 11th 1862. transferred from Co "F" 19th Va Cavalry Feb 24th 1864.
Tracy William March 17th 1862. Killed near Fairfax C, H, Sept 1st 1862.
Tacy James May 29th 1861. Died October 8th 1861.
Wolf, Phillip; May 29th 1861. Captured October 3rd 1861 at Battle Greenbrier (Barlow)
Wanless James May 29th 1861. Wounded at the Wilderness Battle May 5th 1864.
Warwick Peter H. May 29th 1862. Wounded at Port Republic June 9th 1862.
Wilfong Daniel March 17th 1862 , Discharged on account of his age.
Wilfong Elias March 17th 1862. Wounded at Manassas.
Wilfong William G.
Wilfong John M. March 17th 1861 Wounded at Sharpsburg 1862.
Wilfong Henry.
Wilfong George M. March 17th 1861
Wilfong John Wounded at Port Republic June 9th 1862
Wooddell Warwick, March 17th 1861. Killed at Port Republic June 9th 1862
Wooddell Andrew J.
Wooddell Aaron , March 17th 1861 Died near Valley Mills May 1862.
Yeager Henry A. March 17th 1861. taken prisoner June 9th 1862, parolled at
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RECORD OF EVENTS.

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From the 31st of December 1861 , Feb 28th 1862 , Camp Allegheny , James Crawford Arbogast commanding; Aggregate 46 men. Major of Regiment having being killed June 9th 1862 J.C.Arbogast being the next Senior officer has been acting Major.

No date -- Lieut Ruckman Commanding - aggregate 63 men one Segt, 2 Corp, and 11 privates deserted . (Only missing at time of report)

Nov 2nd 1862-- Camp near Berryville , Lieut Elisha Wilfong commanding Company aggregate 54 men; 14 sick 25 on duty 7 on extra duty.

December 31st 1862 Camp near Front Royal 47 names on Roll
E . Wilfong Commanding.

February 1863 Camp near Port Royal , Elisha Wilfong Lieut Commanding aggregate 52 men , 26 fit for duty six on detached service.

May 30th 1863, Camp Buffalo Gap Lieut E. Wilfong commanding aggregate 52 men 8sick , 2 absent , 2 on extra duty, 28 present fit for duty.

October 31st 1863, Camp 4th Va Brigade . John R. Warwick 2nd Lieut -commanding 38 aggregate 27 present for duty,.

Feb 29th 1864 Camp near Summerville Ford, Elish Wilfong 2nd Lieut commanding Aggregate 40 men 28 present for duty..

(It appears by the foregoing list of soldiers that there was a reorganization of the Company in the the beginning of the second year, it is a fact that some of the men enlisted in the first year of the war was enlisted in the same Company at a given date in the second year .

It must be understood that there was a great number of Confederate Soldiers who made their homes after the Civil War in Pocahontas County who were enlisted in Companies out side of Pocahontas County, and by this fact is not enlisted in the Pocahontas County Companies.

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COMPANY " A " 62nd VIRGINIA REGIMENT Pocahontas County .

HENRY SMITH Captain (wounded at New Market)

J . M. SIPLE 1st Lieut.

G. W. SAULSBERRY 2nd Lieut .

W.B. HUDSON 3rd Lieut.

Argabrite , John.
Barnett , James,
Barnett, Thomas,
Beverage Levi, (wounded at Cold harbor)
Beverage Joseph,
Beverage Jacob,
Cassell George, (killed at Port Republic)
Crouch, Silvester,
Dean, William,
Fuller , Cronin,
Figgins George,
Ford William,
Ford Winford,
Foley John,
Friel William,
Friel John,
Galford, Dallas, (wounded at New Market)
Geiger Godfrey,
Geiger, John A.
Hedrick , Harvey,
Hiner , Harden,
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Howell, Leonard,
Jackson, Jackson (killed at Beverly)
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Howell, Leonard,

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Koontz., Peter,

White, Baxter,
White, Azariah,
Kittle March ,
Kittle , George.
Kittle , Squire,
Killingsworth, John W.
McCloud, Lash,
McLaughlin, George,
McLaughlin, Jacob, (Killed at Cedar Creek)
Robert McLaughlin.
Merritt, John, (Wounded at New Market)
Messerly, Granville,
Puffinbarger, Jonas,
Phillips, Cloud,
Phillips, Randolph,
Phillips, George,
Rucker, William,
Rucker Ballard,
Sutton, George,
Swink, Zack,
Switzer William,
Sharp John, (Killed at Beverly)
Sharp, Morris (Wounded at Cedar Creek)
Sharp Peter, (wounded at New Market)
Shinnaberry, Isaac.
Syns, Josiah
Shuey, John,
Taylor, Jacob,
Taylor, Joseph,
Stoddell Adam,
Talton, John.

White, Baxter,
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Company (I) ^{25th} was engaged in the following battles: Phillippi, McDowell, Winchester, Cross Keys, Port Republic, Seven days fight around Richmond, Slaughter Mountain, Fredricksburg, Second Winchester, Gettysburg, Mine Run, and Millerscross. In the latter the 25th Regiment was captured, Seventeen men Company (I) were captured. they were first taken to point lookout, Md., thence Elmira, N. Y. Eleven of the seventeen lived through the war, the others died prisoners.

(This above note is taken from Historical sketches of Pocahontas County History By the Rev W. T. Price.)

Troops Engaged

On the Federal side the organizations were the 28th Ohio Infantry, Col. A Moor; 10th West Virginia Infantry, Col. T. M. Harris; 2nd West Virginia Infantry, Col. F. W. Thompson; 8th West Virginia Infantry, Co. J. H. Oley; 14th Penn Cavalry, Col. J. N. Schoonmaker; and Gibson's Battalion and Batteries B and G, 1st West Virginia Light Artillery.

The Confederate organizations engaged were the 22nd Infantry Col. C. S. Patton; First Battalion 23rd Virginia Infantry, Major William Blessing; 19th Virginia Cavalry, Col. W. P. Thompson; 20th Virginia cavalry, Col. W. W. Arnett; 14th Virginia Cavalry, Col. James Cochran; 16th Virginia Cavalry, Co. Ferguson and an artillery detachment of two battalions and two batteries.

Last year the State Conservation Commission, headed by Major H. W. Shawhan, acquired the site of the battle of Droop Mountain and for more than 14 months Company 2598 CCC, under the command of Capt. E. R. Howery, and directed by the efficient technical service at Camp Price, has been engaged in the task of restoring the battlefield to its war time aspect and transforming it into a public park, which the people of West Virginia, and visitors to the state may have the privilege of enjoying on their motor trips through that section of the country. A map of the battlefield has been prepared and is available to visitors at Droop Mountain. The gun placements, trenches and breastworks are to be restored and points of interest are to be marked permanently.

The public is cordially invited to visit the Battlefield of Droop Mountain, with a confidence that they will there find something that will interest them. It is to be hoped that this flash

of State History will have served the purpose of inducing them to do so.

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them to do so.

After The Civil War.

Because of the division of sentiment Pocahontas County suffered far more than other counties farther north or south. In many instances brother fought against brother. After the war was over, it was a subject not talked about because of the intense feeling that survived the war.

It used to make the Confederates grit their teeth when they saw the Union soldiers wear their blue army overcoats. When the first grand jury met, after the war, the blue overcoats predominated and the Confederates said it looked like a squad of Union soldiers.

(My grandfather I. W. Poage would never wear blue nor allow any member of his family to do so. He always said "You look to much like a ---- Yankee".)

When the first grand jury met was a sad day for the Confederates for most of the prominent Confederate warriors were indicted upon charges ranging from murder down. But the resentment occasioned by the war became somewhat mellowed by the wisdom of the leading men and a condition of toleration was produced. While the soldiers continued to vote as they had shot, it was nothing more than healthy rivalry, and they worked together very well.

From 1928 W. Va. Blue
Book .

By, Andrew Price.

After the Civil War the Confederate soldiers were deprived of the rights of citizenship by their inability to take the test oath. Before a man could vote, hold office, practice law and so forth, he must swear that he had not aided or abetted the Confederacy. This did not please Captain D. A. Stofer who had been captain of the "Pocahontas Rescuers" and of Co. 1, 25th Virginia Inf. At the first opportunity he presented himself at the bar as a practicing attorney, took the oath and resumed his law work, where he left off. After four years of service in the army of the Confederate States. The grand jury indicted him for perjury and he appealed to the Supreme Court, where the

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dragged along for years. The case just naturally went by the board when the new state (W. Va.) went democratic in 1870, a new constitution adopted, and the rights of southern sympathizers restored. Captain Stofer was defended by Arthur Dayton. Mr. Dayton also successfully defended many other Confederate soldiers who were indicted for murder after the Civil War in Pocahontas County.

Pocahontas Times -- July 9, 1931.

They talk about the days of Reconstruction as being trying times. In my opinion the days of reconstruction dating from 1867 to the Reconstruction Act were not half so perilous to the continuance of the country as the two years from 1865-1867.

Here on the home farm, five sons showed up in 1865, and one had perished in the war. The instant need of things were rail fences, live stock, and a crop of corn. Like most soldiers all they asked or hoped for was a chance to get to work again. Instead they felt that they were under the shadow of serving time in prison for treason.

From- Pocahontas Times- Jan 16, 1930
By, Calvin Price. He has reference to the Price family - his father and five uncles.

In many families none of the sons returned as was the case in the Poage family. They sent two sons into the service, both were killed. From the Cooper family there were five sons enlisted. Two, George and Robert were killed. James lost an arm and the other two were wounded. Their names were John and Charles. And so it was with so many of the families.

Price History.

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In 1870 those persons who had been disfranchised were again given the privilege to vote, and the old County Court was reestablished as it had existed prior to 1863.

From - Index to Records of Poca County

In Pearl Buck's Book "The Exile" which is a story of her mother Caroline Stulting who lived at Hillsboro, she tells many things that happened in that vicinity during the Civil War. The Stultings were surrounded by slave owning families, yet they had been taught to have a horror of owning human beings, and since they owned no slaves felt they had no right of fight. Yet they were loyal to Virginia to fight against her and so declared themselves neutral. This of course did not make them popular and there was some threatening murmur against them. Yet none of their neighbors came out openly against them. However there came a day when a band of southern soldiers came for the son Cornelius, who was an able bodied young man. When he refused to go they undertook to force him to go. They got him on a horse, but his mother clung to his leg and refused to let go. They were thus forced to let him go. He went to a cabin on Droop Mountain and for the two remaining years of the war lived there alone. He raised food and took it to his family at night. Therefore when the Little Levels was swept by the passing southern armies, when fields ere devastated and barns and stores robbed, the Stultings had food.

Then there was the dreadful day when north and south met in the battle of Droop Mountain. Cornelius was forced to hide in a cave that day and when night came made his way home his clothes torn and his hands and bare legs badly scratched. But his little field was ruined by cannon balls.

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She tells how for a short time after the slaves were freed, they hardly dared to stir abroad, and that Cornelius had to join the Ku Klux Klan for a while to get the freed slaves to let them alone. (So far I have not been able to find any reference to the K.K.K. in any other writings, but most of the slaves were in the Little Levels and they perhaps had an organization for a short time.)

She tells that the armies at first were gay and assured, then shaken and surprised, then vegeful and desperate, and at last despairing and vanquished. yet more dreadful than these were the armies of the victors, sweeping triumphant over the fertile fields, devastatating conquerors.

When defeat was accepted, a fever to begin life was everywhere present. During these four years there had been no school as the men had been fighting and the women striving to keep the home together. Therefore, there had been no time to think of education, There were no shops nothing to be bought everything had to be produced at home.

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Mr Paul H. Becker

I am sending you a list of the Old Soldiers of the Civil War I have been very careful in making up this list of the Companies , this is a record that is hard to find , in fact part of it is not in the records perfectly as I have it written up . One of the old Soldiers of Pocahontas kept a Diary of the Company "G " which he had printed a few years ago. and many of the facts that he had secured in his record are not in the Archives . and a few of the facts of the Records in the Archives mention a few things the Diary of the Old Soldier dont have .

By placing the two together they will coincide perfectly with the U.S. History This Roster of the Company "G" of the 31st Virginia Regiment is as near Authentic as any person of this generation can make it.

I hope that ^{these} this list of Companies will be printed as carefully as possible The Daughters of the Confederacy and of the Union , look to such records as the foundation of their Organizations .

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We hereby give the list of the Companies of the Confederate Soldiers of the County of Pocahontas that was organized at the out break of the Civil War; The first year of the War Company " G " of the Virginia 31st regiment was mostly composed of Volunteers made up of the citizens of Pocahontas which was organized at Greenbank with James Crawford Arbogast as Captain. the second year of the war , a few soldiers from the adjoining Counties were enlisted in the Company " G " . of the 31st regiment. This entire Company was made up of men that were 6 feet tall , with the exception of James Hughs and Robert Wolfenbarger.

This Company along with the Companies of Pocahontas County was in nearly all the principal engagements of the Civil War. Comany " G " was at Gettysburg with the 31st Virginia , under EUELLS CORPS, EARLYS DIVISION, Brig - General William Smith, s Brigade, who commanded the 31st Regt, 49th Va Regt and the 52nd Va Regt,

The Va , 31st Regt , was commanded by Col- John S. Hoffman of which 27 were killed
The 49th Va, Regt, was commanded by Col- Gibson , of which 100 were killed.
The 52nd Va, Regt, was commanded by Co- James Skinner of which 15 were killed.

The Company " G " of the 31st Va Reg,t didn,t hold together after the Battle of Spottsylvania , the encounter at the " Bloody Angle" which was May 12th 1864.

We hereby give the list of the Companies of the Confederate Soldiers of the County of Pocahontas that was organized at the out break of the Civil War; The first year of the War Company " G " of the Virginia 31st regiment was mostly composed of Volunteers made up of the citizens of Pocahontas which was organized at Greenbank with James Crawford Arbogast as Captain. the second year of the war , a few soldiers from the adjoining Counties were enlisted in the Company " G " . of the 31st regiment. This entire Company was made up of men that were 6 feet tall , with the exception of James Hughs and Robert Wolfenbarger.

This Company along with the Companies of Pocahontas County was in nearly all the principal engagements of the Civil War. Comany " G " was at Gettysburg with the 31st Virginia , under EUELLS CORPS, EARLYS DIVISION, Brig - General William Smith,s Brigade, who commanded the 31st Regt, 49th Va Regt and the 52nd Va Regt,

The Va , 31st Regt , was commanded by Col- John S. Hoffman of which 27 were killed

The 49th Va, Regt, was commanded by Col- Gibson , of which 100 were killed.

The 52nd Va, Regt, was commanded by Co- James Skinner of which 15 were killed.

The Company " G " of the 31st Va Reg,t didn,t hold together after the Battle of Spottsylvania ,the encounter at the " Bloody Angle" which was May 12th 1864.

ROSTER OF COMPANY " G " 31st REGIMENT OF VIRGINIA C . S . A .

VOLANTEERS , (Made up mostly of Soldiers of Pocahontas County)

Compiled from the Muster and Pay Rolls from September 1st 1861, to Feb 26th 1864 on file in the West Virginia department of Archives and History.

Organized at Greenbank , and Mustered into service at Huttonsville, May 1861. Enlistments at Greenbank, Laurel Hill, and Top Allegheny.

James Crawford Arbogast , Captain May 29th 1861.

James Crawford Arbogast was promoted to Major Vice. when J.H.Chenoweth was killed at Port Republic June 9th 1862.

George W. Siple, 1st Lieut May 29th 1861.

James Franklin Gum, 2nd Lieut May 29th 1861.

Sidney Ruckma, 1st Lieut, May 29th 1861. Promoted from 2nd Sergeant, Command Co- 62.

C.B.Ruckman 2nd Lieut May 29th 1861, resigned Nov 14th 1862.

Elisha Wilfong, 2nd Lieut May 29th 1861, Commanded Company after Nov 1862- was wounded at Gettysburg on July 3rd 1863.

John R. Warwick, 2nd Lieut, May 29th 1861, Promoted from 1st Sergeant, wounded at Port Republic June 8th 1862. Prisoner June 19th 1864.

Non- Commissioned Officers.

William H. Hull. 1st Sergeant May 29th 1861. Wounded 12th of May 1864 (at the " Bloody Angle " at Spottsylvania .

George W. Arbogast 2nd Sgt, May 29th 1861, Wounded Port Republic June 9th 1862 at Port Republic, Killed Spottsylvania May 12th 1864 (in the Bloody Angle)

John W. Nottingham 2nd Sergeant May 29th 1861. Killed at Spottsylvania May 12 1864

Robert Wolfenbarger, 3rd Sergeant March 17th 1862. Wounded , and Prisoner Fort Steadman- March 25th 1865.

William B. Kerr, 3rd Sergt, March 17th 1862, Died at Staunton Nov 8th 1862.

Valentine Gillispie 4th Sergt May 29th 1861, absent after Nov 1862.

William Hughes 4th Sergt March 17th 1862.

John J. Hicks. 5th Sergt, May 29th 1862. Killed Port Republic June 9th 1862.

William Hicks. Corp May 29th 1861.

Juanita Dilley
Clover Lick
Pocahontas County

IMPORTANT SERVICES OF THE STATE GUARDS TO
THE UNION

Chapter 4

These soldiers were not pensioned or rewarded like the rest of the army. Yet his services were of great peril and importance. They were in service about fourteen months.

In April 1864 the state guards were organized and took charge of the danger zone in West Virginia and in May 1864 the entire force of the regular army of West Virginia was on the move into Virginia to report to General Hunter at Staunton. From that time to the end of the war this regular army fought east of the mountains.

The policy of West Virginia during the last year of the war was given over entirely to the state guards. Yet they have been ignored. Most of the southern states have taken very good care of destitute southern veterans. But very few of these from Pocahontas ever received a pension.

These guards had all the standing of regular sworn defenders wore a unifrom, and were authorized by law to lay down their lives for the Union.

Pocahontas County - State Guards - Adjustant or mustering officers;

Claiborne Pierson - Comm. August 8, 1861

John Sharp - Commissioned September 30, 1863

Captain Samuel Young's company

compiled from roll dated February 14, 1865

Captain Samuel Young- commissioned as Captain August 29, 1864

Enlisted Men

Benjamin Arbogast - Sergeant

John H. Armstrong - Sergeant

Alexander Atchison (this name probably should be Adkison)

Ruben Buzzard (now spelled Bussard)

George Cochran
Thomas Cunningham
Jeremiah Dilley
Clark Dilley

(in the Blue Book this name is listed as Martin C. but he was usually known as Clark)

William Gay
John Gibson
Jonathan Griffin
Jesse Gregory
Morgan Grimes
William Hannah
Aaron Kee
George Williams
John Kellison
William Kennison
Peter McCarty
William McCarty
George W. McKeever
Aaron Moore
Hanson Moore
Harrison Moore
John Moore
Washington Neff
Henry Pugh
Moffett Pugh
George Rogers
James L. Rodgers (Rogers is the way they all spell their name now)

Martin Sharp
Henry Sharp
John H. Simms
P. A. Smith
John U. Wanless
Milton Sharp
Columbus Silvey
William Simmons
-----Sines
Newton Wanless
William M. Wanless
Sheldon Hannah

Captain Allen's Pocahontas Scouts
Captain I. Walton Allen - Commissioned
Captain of Pocahontas County Scouts to rank April 4, 1864
Enlisted men -

Benjamin H. Adkison
Allen Arbogast
D. M. Burgess
Clark Young
B. B. Carvey
John Grimes
Samuel Grant
Robert Green
Adam Gregory
George Griffin
Joseph Hannah
Michael Bass

Kane Hinkle
William Johnson
John McLaughlin
Joseph Rapp
Christopher Silva
John Slaten
David Sullivan
Marcus Waugh
Solomon Westfall
Jacob Weiford
Robert Wilkins
J. B. Wright
William Hannah

Probably not a complete list.

George Cochran
Thomas Cunningham
Jeremiah Dilley
Clark Dilley (in the Blue Book this name is listed as Martin C. but he was usually known as Clark)

William Gay
John Gibson
Jonathan Griffin
Jesse Gregory
Morgan Grimes
William Hannah
Aaron Kee
George Williams
John Kellison
William Kennison
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William McCarty
George W. McKeever
Aaron Moore
Hanson Moore
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Jacob Weiford
Robert Wilkins
J. B. Wright
William Hannah
Probably not a complete list.

Joseph Gay was noted Confederate scout. His company took part in the battle of Duncan's Lane, but so far I have not been able to get a list of those in his company.

Walton Allen was a sworn in Union soldier, but did not always conduct himself in an honorable way. In fact, he was one of the most unlawful of the bushwhackers, shooting at people who were his nearest neighbors. People who had befriended him many times, stealing when ever he found food, horses etc., that he wished to have. He shot and wounded Hugh McLaughlin. Before the war he had stayed over night many times at the McLaughlin home and had partaken of their hospitality. Things like this that were done by him and others did more than anything else to deepen the hatred the Confederates of this county felt against the Yankees.

Allen's home is less than a mile from where I was born. I remember him well, and have been at his home many times. The old log house still stands and was used as a dwelling until about three years ago.

I'm afraid he never was able to win back the respect of his neighbors, for even to this day people of this section of the county have very little good to say about him. Almost every one can tell of some misdeed he did such as shooting at some member of their family, stealing a cow or horse, drinking the milk out of their dairys. It was just unfortunate for the Federals that a man like that should be put in a position to do things like that. Of course many of the soldiers practiced this bushwhacking, but none are spoken of with so much bitterness as Walt Allen is.

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Juanita S. Dilley
Clover Lick, W. Va.
Pocahontas County
June 27, 1940
Chapter 4 section 4

NANCY HART THE CONFEDERATE SPY SPENT HER LAST DAYS
IN POCAHONTAS COUNTY

In Roane County, during the Civil War, was a band of Guerrillas who were not regular soldiers and to this band belonged Perry Connelly. Many deaths were blamed to him and it became a matter of prime importance with the Union forces to get rid of Connelly. To this same band belonged Nancy Hart. She was a girl in her twenties, black eyed, of medium height, of modern education, very active and very beautiful. She was a Confederate bred in the bone. She was the eyes of this local army. Connelly's death caused the little army to disintegrate and the soldiers found their way into the regular Confederate army, but Nancy Hart continued to be of great service to the army as a spy.

She was captured and held as a spy in the jail at Summersville. After a time the soldiers guarding her grew careless and underestimated the danger of their charge. She was allowed some freedom about the jail yard, and she talked freely to the soldiers. One night she approached one of the sentinels and engaged him in conversation. She was allowed to examine a pistol that he carried. When she secured the pistol she shot him and made her escape. She fled to the mountain wilderness and she was not taken again.

Nancy Hart married Joshua Douglas, and they settled in

the great mountain wilderness around the head of Spring Creek and but for one more tragedy she rounded out a peaceful and contented life in her mountain home.

In 1880 the country rang with the news of the killing of Thomas Reed by Kenos Douglas. Douglas lay in a laurel patch for five weeks in the dead of winter, but was captured and given a life sentence. Kenos was a son of Joshua and Nancy Hart Douglas. This is the story of a heroine of the Civil War.

From--1926 Blue Book

By---Andrew Price

(I have made considerable inquiry about this woman and as near as I can find out she lived Pocahontas and the Reeds lived in Greenbrier, and for that reason the trial was held at Lewisburg.)

JOHN BROWN IN POCAHONTAS

John Brown of Harper's Ferry bought wool in this county in the 1850's. He spent Sunday in Marlinton. Held family prayer but did not kneel. He sat in his chair talking to God. Was a deeply religious man who would not travel on Sunday.

From--1926 Blue Book

By ---Andrew Price

Juanita S. Dilley
Clover Lick, W. Va.
POCAHONTAS COUNTY
June 26, 1940
Chapter 4 section 5

THE COMING OF JAMES HENRY G. WILSON TO MARLINTON

About the year 1894, the Prices one day received a letter from Wilson in England saying he was just out of college, of athletic turn, with a thousand pounds capital, and would like to obtain footing in the United States. They wrote him to come and see for himself. About the first of September he came with his boxes, driving through from Belington in a spring wagon he had chartered there; a little drive of 70 miles. He had lost his way and suffered exhaustion. The right way would have been to come to Millboro, Va. where he could have gotten here in 46 miles and his boxes would have come by covered wagon trains that ran summer and winter.

But he found comfortable quarters and an understanding people. He even found a countryman already stopping here. The first evening they made a bet. Wilson bet the other that he, the tenderfoot, would catch a hundred bass before winter set in, and by the way he won the bet to the astonishment of everyone. The people of Marlinton knew how to deal with Englishmen. Three cardinal rules: Ask no prying questions, give him a bed to himself, and a small hand tub to bathe in, and the world is his. It was in this way that James Henry G. Wilson came to Marlinton where he spent the rest of his life. He was just out of Oxford, and he had played on the *Rugby* football team, he had also played as an international. He got stuck with a horse

the day after he arrived, a kind of an outlaw among horses,
heavy on his feet and with a mean disposition. Wilson changed
his name to Satan. Afterwards when he had become an expert wi-
th horses he acquired Toby the beautiful sorrel, and the dog
Major. The trio were known and welcome far and wide.

From-Blue Book--1928

By---Andrew Price

Battle of Droop Mountain

Historical
History

By Pella F. Yeager ✓

This was a decisive battle in that it expelled the Confederates from that section of N. Va. and from there on to the end of the war.

Source -

Wonderful Scenic Views and Flashbacks
of American History by
Colonel William S. Waldron
U.S. Army

Hella F. Yeager

*James Charleston paper - 1-
abstract from Yeager*

WONDERFUL SCENIC VIEWS AND FLASHES
OF AMERICAN HISTORY

By Colonel William S. Waldron,
U. S. Army

BATTLE OF DROOP MOUNTAIN

Droop Mtn

*5.219
Jan 6*

One day as you go bowling along over the Seneca Trail (Route 219) enjoying the scenic beauties of West Virginia you will come to a roadside marker, about thirty miles north of Lewisburg, which informs you that you are nearing "Droop Mountain Battlefield." A little further on you will see the massive rustic portals, constructed by the State Conservation Commission and the CCC boys, which mark the entrance to this historic spot-- a place where brothers crossed swords in mighty conflict for a cause in which each one of them believed.

Now, if you read on, it looks like you are in for a brief history lesson--a thing which you dread, but which will stand you in good stead when you visit this hallowed ground, direct your mind back over a space of 73 years and try to visualize what happened here.

The year 1863 was an important milestone in the history of West Virginia. It was on June 20th of that year that our fathers chose to separate from the Old Dominion and become a member of the family of states in their own right.

The Confederate Forces

At that time there was a Confederate force composed largely of Virginia cavalry and some artillery, and numbering about 4,000 men, under the command of General John Echols, which was based on Lewisburg and extended far up the Greenbrier Valley toward Durbin.

They formed a sort of outpost designed to protect Virginia from a Federal attack from the west. They lived on the country and found good pickings for man and beast from the rich bluegrass region.

A small Federal force under command of General William W. Averell and based on Elkins opposed the Confederates. Their mission was to protect the Baltimore and Ohio railroad, the main Federal line of rail communication from east to west. They were not of sufficient strength to undertake offensive operations against the Confederates and had to content themselves to play the role of an observation force.

On the Kanawha River at the mouth of Gauley there was another small force of Federals under the command of General A. N. Duffie, with the mission of preventing a Confederate movement down the Kanawha towards the Ohio River.

Following General Lee's 1863 invasion of the north, which ended in disaster at Gettysburg, Averell's command was reinforced and he was ordered to drive the Confederates out of the Greenbrier Valley. These reinforcements brought his strength up to about 5000 men, which gave him a small superiority in numbers. General Averell requisitioned horses from the nearby farms in the Tygart valley country and mounted much of his infantry, thus making his command about of equal mobility with that of his opponents.

Preliminary Operations

General Averell ordered General Duffie to march from Gauley Bridge to Lewisburg so as to arrive there on the afternoon of November 7. With his own command he marched south, leaving Beverly on November 1, and drove back the Confederate patrols that

occupied the northern reaches of the valley. When he learned that Averell was marching down the valley, General Echols proceeded to Droop Mountain with his main body, while he took up a defensive position with the idea of providing a rallying point for his advanced troops which were being driven back by the Federals, there to make a stand and stop the further advance of Averell. A line of breastworks and gun positions was constructed across the main road, which we now know as the "Seneca Trail" (Route 219) where it crosses the mountain.

Apparently General Echols had learned of the approach of General Duffie's force coming east from Gauley Bridge but left no considerable force at Lewisburg to oppose him. Averell's main body arrived in the vicinity of Hillsboro on the evening of November 4th. They established their outposts close to the foot of Droop Mountain and started immediately with the reconnaissance of the Confederate position. The entire day of November 5 was consumed in this reconnaissance, which developed the fact that the position was too strong to be taken to direct assault. There was a lot of skirmishing during the day and that evening General *Smith* decided upon his plan of battle. In the meantime General Duffie was approaching Lewisburg from the west.

The Battle

Early on the morning of November 6, 1865, General Averell dispatched a force of about 1100 men composed of the 18th Ohio Infantry and the 14th Pennsylvania Cavalry to march west and south on the Lobelia road, a detour of six miles, to attack the left flank and rear of the Confederate position on Droop Mountain. He

also sent a small detachment out to the east to demonstrate against the right flank of the Confederate position.

General Echols was content to defend his strong position on the mountain and apparently had no information that a federal force was approaching on his left flank.

At 1:45 p m, just when the skirmishing along the front was at its height, the Federal right flanking detachment broke in on the left flank and rear of the Confederate position, Averell pushed forward his assault up the mountain on the front and the left flanking detachment closed in. Echols threw in part of his reserves to stem the tide and for a short period of time there was some desperate fighting on top of the mountain. Seeing that the Federal right flank force was closing in on his rear in an endeavor to gain the road to Lewisburg, Echols sent in the last of his reserves and all of the troops he could withdraw from the main position to counter this move. He succeeded in doing so and managed to withdraw his whole command and get it on the road to Lewisburg. By four o'clock in the afternoon his troops were on the road in more or less orderly formation and covered by an organized rear guard which covered the retreat. His rear guard passed through Lewisburg at about ten o'clock on the forenoon of November 7, just as Duffie's advance guard reached the western entrance of the town.

Averell did not push the pursuit too vigorously because he thought that Duffie would be able to cut off the Confederates at Lewisburg. But by marching all night and the fact that his mounts were rested and fresh, Echols was able to save practically his entire command to fight another day. The Confederates continued their retreat on down through Union and crossed over into Virginia at Peterstown.

Decisive Battle

The Battle of Droop Mountain was a decisive battle in that it expelled the Confederates from that section of West Virginia and from then on to the end of the war between the states, West Virginia was Federal territory.

In his report of the battle, General Echols states: "My artillery and trains were brought safely through with the exception of one brass howitzer belonging to Chapman's battery which broke down completely during the retreat and had to be left, this offering the enemy the only trophy of which they can "boast." This cannon is supposed to have been buried in the swamp on Droop Mountain, and although diligent search has been made it has not yet been found. It is hoped that it will be located in due time.

In the course of the conflict, Colonel James Cochran, commander of the 14th Virginia cavalry, was surrounded by a squad of Union soldiers and apparently doomed to capture. By some means, however, he managed to escape. Later in relating the story, he was asked why, under the circumstances, he did not surrender, Colonel Cochran replied: "If they had said 'Colonel, surrender' I would have done so. But they said, 'stop, you blankety-blank red-headed son of a gun,' and I would not accommodate any man who used such language to me."

The Federal troops engaged numbered 4,700 and suffered a loss of 130 casualties. The Confederates had 3950 engaged and their losses were about 400 men.

Troops Engaged

On the Federal side the organizations were the 28th Ohio Infantry, Col. A Moor; 10th West Virginia Infantry, Col. T. M. Harris; 2nd West Virginia Infantry, Col. F. W. Thompson; 8th West Virginia Infantry, Co. J. H. Oley; 14th Penn Cavalry, Col. J. N. Schoonmaker; and Gibson's Battalion and Batteries B and G, 1st West Virginia Light Artillery.

The Confederate organizations engaged were the 22nd Infantry Col. C. S. Patton; First Battalion 23rd Virginia Infantry, Major William Blessing; 19th Virginia Cavalry, Col. W. P. Thompson; 20th Virginia cavalry, Col. W. W. Arnett; 14th Virginia Cavalry, Col. James Cochran; 16th Virginia Cavalry, Co. Ferguson and an artillery detachment of two ~~battalions~~ battalions and two batteries.

Last year the State Conservation Commission, headed by Major H. W. Shawhan, acquired the site of the battle of Droop Mountain and for more than 14 months Company 2598 CCC, under the command of Capt. E. R. Howery, and directed by the efficient technical service at Camp Price, has been engaged in the task of restoring the battlefield to its war time aspect and transforming it into a public park, which the people of West Virginia, and visitors to the state may have the privilege of enjoying on their motor trips through that section of the country. A map of the battlefield has been prepared and is available to visitors at Droop Mountain. The gun placements, trenches and breastworks are to be restored and points of interest are to be marked permanently.

The public is cordially invited to visit the Battlefield of Droop Mountain, with a confidence that they will there find something that will interest them. It is to be hoped that this flash

Dilley
Lick, W. Va.
Shss Co. - Ch. 4 - Sec. 4b - 3

father and she has written poems about the meeting of these two brothers and of her grandfather's experience in prison.

- Marshall, Jacob W. - He raised and commanded a very efficient company of mounted infantry. He was later one of the promoters of Marlinton as an active member of the Pocahontas Developing Co.
- McCutcheon, Samuel H. - Captured in 1863. Taken to Camp Chase. Remained there until the close of the war. Came back broken in health. Died of consumption in 1869.
- McCutcheon, John B. - Returned
- McCutcheon, William A. G. - West into battle of Seven Pines against his captains advice. Overcome with fatigue. Developed penumonia and died.
- Moore, Brepon - Slain at Gettysburg
- Mathews, Sampson L. - Returned
- Moore, James C. killed June 1864 near New Hope, Va.
- McLaughlin, Robert -
- McEvee, D. B. - Co. F Beth Cavalry
- McEvee, B. D. - Co. F. " "
- McCarty, John - Co. F. " "
- McNeel, A. G. - Co. F. " "
- Moffitt, G. H. - Co. F. " "
- McNeel, William L. - Captain of a company of mounted Infantry.
- McNeel - Matthew John -
- McNeel, George
- McNeel, Samuel Ellis - died during war.
- McNeel, John Adam -
- Maye, William - a captain - after the war was a government clerk in Washington, D. C.
- Overholt, Reuben E. -
- Overholt, John - died in battle
- Overholt, George H. -
- Overholt, Peter -

and from Washington; citi

W. Dilley
Lick, W. Va.
Swiss Co. - Ch. 4 - Sec. 4b - 3

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Overholt, William H - These 5 men were brothers. There was another brother enlisted but do not know his name.

Patterson, J. H. - Clerk of Circuit Court after the war.

Poage, Henry Moffett - A Lieu. Died near Warrenton, Va. Shot down as he topped a ^{small} hill.

Poage, William A. - Lost his life while on a scout.

Price, Andrew G. - Taken prisoner at Hanover Junction. Died at Point Lockout July 6, 64/

Price, James Henry -

Price, William T. -

Price, John Calvin -

Price, J. Woods -

Price, Samuel D. -

* In the spring of 1864 the Union troops called at the home of James Atlee Price. The first intimation that the family had was the sound of the wooden latch of the gate at the road, falling. They looked out and the whole country from the house to the bridge was blue. There were Confederate soldiers in uniform in the house; James H. Price, John Calvin Price, J. Woods Price and David Kennison. They ran. Kennison fell down and was captured and sent to prison. Woods Price was pursued to the big sycamore at the mouth of Kees Run, he dodged behind this tree and as his pursuer came around the tree Price shot and cut a furrow across his brow, whereupon the Union soldier went back and Price escaped. J. Calvin Price and James H. Price took to the river. James Price got across, but Calvin Price was shot in the thigh and it looked like he might drown. James returned to assist him, but before he could reach the wounded man, the Union soldier who had fired the shot, went into the water and brought out his game. Whereupon Calvin Price was left at home to recover and James was made a prisoner and spent the rest of the war in an Ohio prison. He was turned out at the end of the war without a cent in his pocket. He walked the hundreds of miles home. That cured him of his traveling. He marched, counter-marched, and endured all kinds of hardships, but was never called upon to fire a shot.

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- Goodell, Warwick - killed at Cold Harbor
- Goodell, Aaron -
- Yeager, William Asbury - He was in the engagement at Winchester and when the battle was over 17 bullet holes were found in his clothing but he did not get a scratch. Took part in all the battles of his company, except Gettysburg. Was in the hospital at that time. Killed at Hatches Run Feb. 6, 1865.
- Yeager, H. A. - Took part in all the engagements except when wounded.
- Yeager, Peter D. - Prisoner at Camp Chase. Released July 1865. He in a large measure restored Travelers Repose from the devastation of war.
- Yeager, John - Selected by Col Rust of the 3rd Arkansas Reg. to go with him, as a guide into the Federal fortifications at Whites Top of Cheat. They arrived, got into the camp, learned the position of the devense, but the attack was not made because of high water.
- Young, George -
- Warwick, James W. Jr., - Supt. of schools after the war.
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Jessie S. Dilley
Clover Lick, W. Va.
Feb. 9, 1940

Chapter 4
Pocahontas Co.

CIVIL WAR PERIOD

(I'm giving this history of Travellers Repose because so much fighting or marching of soldiers took place in this section of Pocahontas)

About 150 years ago John Yeager came to the upper Greenbrier Valley from Pennsylvania near Lancaster. He settled on the East Fork of Greenbrier River at Travellers Repose. He took many thousands of acres in what was known as the German settlement. Among the neighbors were John Slaven, Abraham Burner, Moses Houchin, and Abraham Arbogast.

One of the sons of John Yeager, who married a Hull, was Andrew who married Elizabeth Dilley. Along in the 1820's Andrew came into the homestead, Travellers Repose. In 1861 he refugeed to Highland County, and the tavern house was burned by the Federal troops from Indiana regiments under General Milroy, camped on Shavers Cheat Mountain. The same year Andrew Yeager died of typhoid fever in Highland County. Peter D. Yeager, the son of Andrew, was a Confederate soldier. He spent a long time as a prisoner of war at Camp Chase, Ohio. Upon his return from prison he restored in a large measure the pioneer home and tavern.

About fifteen years ago Brown B. Beard, a great-great grandson of John Yeager the pioneer, added much in the way of improvements and modern conveniences to the restored house.

From earliest times Travellers Repose was a popular stopping place for the traveling public but it came into its own as a regular stage coach stop and tavern house upon the completion of the Staunton and Parkersburg Turnpike by Col. Claude Crozet late of Napoleon's armies, in the late 1830's and early 1840's. He was one of many Napoleon soldiers who refugeed to America after Waterloo, and was a master road builder. This turnpike was one of the heavily traveled thoroughfares from east to west; used by emigrants going west in their wagons; by statesmen and politicians from the west to and from Washington; citizens from

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to the northwest to and from Richmond. Travellers Repose was a regular stop, and ever a popular one, for its food and hospitality.

What an interesting thing the old tavern register would now be with its autographs of those who stopped there in stage coach days. But it is supposed the old book went up in flames when the house was burned during the war. Senator Henry Clay was a familiar figure in the neighborhood. He was a special friend of Col John Slaven whose plantation was where Durbin now stands, a few miles below Travellers Repose. The senator maintained a hunting camp in "The Narrows" between Durbin and the Tannery at Frank. Governor Joe Johnson and Stonewall Jackson also traveled the Staunton & Parkersburg Pike and often stopped over at the home of John Slaven to enjoy trout and venison. During the war, his home was also burned and the family's happy life came to an end.

Ambrose Bierce, the bitter writer, was a boy soldier with Milroy on Cheat Mountain. He writes of some of his experiences in this section during the war. Other writers familiar with Travellers Repose were Porter Creyon and Hergensheimer. It is the land of "Tol'able David" a one time popular moving picture.

The Confederate war camp, Bartown, was at Travelers Repose. One fall day in 1861 Milroy brought his army down from Shavers Cheat Mountain to fight an artillery duel with Camp Bartow, and then marched them back again. Old soldiers said this battle was a record so far as their experience of four years of real war went, in that more powder was burned for the number of men killed.

Two months later, General Milroy was repulsed with heavy losses when he attacked General Edward Jackson at Camp Allegheny. This battle was six miles from Travelers Repose but still on Yeager land.

General Averill passed through Travelers Repose with his army in his sweep down the Greenbrier Valley in the fall of 1863, to fight the Battle of Droop Mountain.

When the railroads put the stage coach out of business, for a generation the once well traveled east and west highway by Travelers Repose became a local road. Then came the railroad up the Greenbrier to cause industrial centers and towns to

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Louise McNeill has written poems about this incident and about Travellers Repose. I quote them here merely to show how well she describes real incidents in her native Pocahontas. These of course could not be published without permission.

JED KANE

The Gauley mail was overdue
 When Jed who was to drive it through
 Cheat Mountain Pass to Staunton Run
 Got special word from Washington
 In which a postal clerk inquired
 Why Mr. Kane who had been hired
 To drive the course at post haste rate
 Was not in yet, though three months late.

And now on a high-glaze marble wall
 In the postal building Jed Kanes scrawl
 Hangs framed in silver: "Respected Sir,
 You ask the reason and this be her-
 If the gable end blew out of hell
 Straight into the drifts of a snow that fell
 Last fall on the ram's horn point of Cheat
 It would take till Easter for brimstone heat.
 To melt a horsepath, So I remain

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Inventory of Materials

Pocahontas

Topic: Point of interest W. Va.

The Battle of Droop Mountain

Title:

Author:

Newspaper Clipping
Dec 27, 1935

Date submitted: _____ Length: _____ words

Status:

Editor: _____

Contents:

Historic battlefield converted into
State Park.

A vivid description of Droop Mt
Battle from pen of Andrew Price

Source:

Consultant:

Reliability:

Files: _____

Folders: _____